

WHEREAS, On August 26, 1920, U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby certified the states' ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, securing for all women across the nation the fundamental right to vote; and

WHEREAS, This amendment became law only after decades of organizing, protesting and agitating by those committed to removing barriers to women's full enfranchisement in this nation and assuring women equal footing at the polls — a cause that created one of the most remarkable and successful nonviolent civil rights efforts the world had ever seen; and

WHEREAS, In 1871, Susan B. Anthony and Abigail Scott Duniway led a crusade through the Washington and Oregon territories that resulted in an 1883 territorial law giving women full voting rights, and although that law was later overturned, the Washington Constitution was permanently amended to give women the vote in 1910, a full decade before women nationwide secured the right; and

WHEREAS, these brave, tenacious women challenged our nation to live up to its founding democratic promise and principles of the pursuit of liberty and equality while serving honorably as teachers, physicians, ministers and reformers without a voice at the ballot box; and

WHEREAS, since their work and sacrifices have resulted in millions upon millions of women using the power of the ballot to shape our country and community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Councilors hereby respectfully marks Friday, August 26, 2016, as the 96th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and celebrates the legacy of those who made such strides in the past century by committing to reach even higher in our county's pursuit of liberty and equality for all.

DATED this 23rd of August 2016

BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Marc Boldt, Chair

Jeanne E. Stewart, District 1

Julie Olson, District 2

David Madore, District 3

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