

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1897

A RESOLUTION recognizing the 90th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

WHEREAS, On June 4, 1919, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which stated that “the rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex,” passed both houses of Congress and was sent to the states for ratification; and

WHEREAS, Kansas ratified the 19th Amendment on June 16, 1919, and it went into effect on August 18, 1920; and

WHEREAS, Kansas was also a leader in pushing for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and was one of the first states to ratify it, doing so on March 28, 1972; and

WHEREAS, The women’s suffrage movement was founded in the mid-19th century by women who had become politically active through their work in the abolitionist and temperance movements. In July 1848, 240 women suffragists, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, met in Seneca Falls, New York, to assert the right of women to vote; and

WHEREAS, In 1869, the National Woman Suffrage Association, led by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, was formed to push for an amendment to the United States Constitution. Another organization, the American Woman Suffrage Association, led by Lucy Stone, was organized in the same year to work through the state legislatures. In 1890, these two societies merged to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association; and

WHEREAS, By the beginning of the 20th century, the role of women in American society was changing drastically; women were working more, receiving a better education, bearing fewer children and several states had authorized female suffrage. In 1913, the National Woman’s party organized the voting power of these enfranchised women to elect congressional representatives who supported woman suffrage and by 1916, both the Democrat and Republican parties openly endorsed female enfranchisement, leading to the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1919; and

WHEREAS, The State of Kansas has a proud tradition of pushing for equal rights for all citizens: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we recognize the 90th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote, and that we acknowledge the contributions made by the state of Kansas towards equality for all; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senators Kelly Kultala and Marci Fancisco.

Senate Resolution No. 1897 was sponsored by Senators Kultala, Brownlee, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, Kelly, Lee, Lynn, McGinn, Pilcher-Cook, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Teichman and Wagle.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.