

1 the states to ratify the amendment before its inclusion in the Constitution; and

2 WHEREAS, Lucy Stone, Henry Blackwell, and others formed the American Woman
3 Suffrage Association, which focused on achieving voting rights for women through
4 individual state constitutions; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1872, Susan B. Anthony was arrested for voting in the presidential
6 election for Ulysses S. Grant; and

7 WHEREAS, once the two major groups fighting for women's suffrage merged into
8 the National Woman Suffrage Association, the movement became considered mainstream
9 and in 1896, the National Association of Colored Women was formed, and in 1913, with the
10 formation of what would be known as the National Woman's Party, the movement's players
11 were all engaged in the fight for women's suffrage; and

12 WHEREAS, Colorado became the first state to adopt an amendment granting women
13 the right to vote in 1893, followed by Utah, and Idaho; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1918, President Woodrow Wilson announced that women's suffrage
15 was urgently needed as a "war measure", and in 1919, the amendment, which was originally
16 written by Susan B. Anthony in the previous century, was passed by Congress, sent to the
17 states to be ratified, and was subsequently ratified by twenty-two states, including New
18 York; and

19 WHEREAS, on August 26, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S.
20 Constitution, having been ratified by the requisite number of states, became a part of the
21 Constitution, and women in the United States were at last fully enfranchised; and

22 WHEREAS, this lengthy struggle for the right to vote culminated in women voting
23 in the 1920 presidential election, which Warren G. Harding won; and

24 WHEREAS, over this current year and 2020, events are planned around the country
25 to celebrate this momentous enactment; and

26 WHEREAS, the struggle for women's suffrage was lengthy and bitter, and the
27 eventual triumph by the movement lagged behind many states that had granted women the
28 right to vote in state elections, overturned a decision by the United States Supreme Court that
29 granting women the right to vote was unconstitutional, and followed numerous countries
30 around the world who had fully enfranchised women prior to 1920.

