SLS 19RS-69 **ORIGINAL**

2019 Regular Session

1

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY SENATORS MIZELL, BARROW, COLOMB, HEWITT AND PETERSON AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, CARPENTER, DAVIS, DUBUISSON, EMERSON, HILFERTY, HODGES, HORTON, JACKSON, NANCY LANDRY, MARCELLE, MOORE, NORTON, SMITH, STOKES, THOMAS AND WHITE

LEGIS POWERS/FUNCTIONS. Recognizes the Centennial Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize the Centennial Anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment
3	to the United States Constitution.
4	WHEREAS, the fight for women's suffrage was a lengthy one and brought many
5	disparate groups and individuals to a common cause, believing in and working for the
6	enfranchisement of women in the United States; and
7	WHEREAS, no one event resulted in the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to
8	the U.S. Constitution, rather the movement for women's suffrage began in 1848, more than
9	seventy years before the final ratification; and
10	WHEREAS, the march toward women's suffrage began at a convention in Seneca
11	Falls, New York, which involved a hundred advocates and produced a Declaration of
12	Sentiments, which outlined grievances and set an agenda for the movement; and
13	WHEREAS, over the next more than forty years, including an eighteen-year hiatus
14	occasioned by the Civil War, the movement grew and gained momentum; and
15	WHEREAS, in 1869, a split occurred in the suffragist movement, resulting in
16	Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton forming the "National Woman Suffrage
17	Association", whose primary goal was to achieve voting rights for women by means of a
18	congressional amendment to the Constitution, which would then require three-quarters of

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 election for Ulysses S. Grant; and 6 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 states to be ratified, and was subsequently ratified by twenty-two states, including New 17 18 York; and 19 WHEREAS, on August 26, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, having been ratified by the requisite number of states, became a part of the 20 21 Constitution, and women in the United States were at last fully enfranchised; and WHEREAS, this lengthy struggle for the right to vote culminated in women voting 22 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 WHEREAS, the struggle for women's suffrage was lengthy and bitter, and the 26 27 eventual triumph by the movement lagged behind many states that had granted women the right to vote in state elections, overturned a decision by the United States Supreme Court that 28 29 granting women the right to vote was unconstitutional, and followed numerous countries

around the world who had fully enfranchised women prior to 1920.

30

SLS 19RS-69

ORIGINAL
SCR NO. 39

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the Centennial Anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920, following ratification by Tennessee, as the requisite number of states had then ratified, and fully enfranchised women in the United States.

1

2

3

4

5

SCR 39 Original

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

Mizell

Recognizes the Centennial Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, fully enfranchising women.