



# CATALOG

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## 19th Amendment Centennial

The 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, but this landmark event was not the beginning or the end of the story for women and the struggle for the right to vote. The [National Archives holds the records](#) that help tell this story, including petitions, legislation, court cases, and more.




As the home of the [19th Amendment](#), the National Archives is commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Constitutional amendment that guaranteed that “The right of citizens

A black and white photograph capturing a group of women, likely suffragettes, marching on a wet, cobblestone street. The women are dressed in long, light-colored coats and hats, typical of the early 20th century. They are carrying several flags, including the Union Jack, and a large banner in the foreground. A train is visible in the background, and the wet pavement reflects the scene.

We are kicking off this 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration with a brand new [Citizen Archivist mission](#)! Join us and transcribe newly digitized records that document the suffrage movement.

City \_\_\_\_\_ State Calif

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Petition to the Senate  
for a  
Suffrage Amendment

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Petition to the Senate to support the President of the United States and pass the suffrage amendment in accordance with the request of the President of the United States.

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

The President asks that the suffrage amendment should be passed as a just recognition of the work American women have done for the support of the war. We agree with the president.

The President asks that the suffrage amendment is a necessary war measure; that it will help to win the war.

Senators, that alone is surely reason enough why you should vote for the amendment.

Sensators, your petitioners urge you to stand by the President and to heed his advice and vote for the suffrage amendment, both as a war measure that will help us to win victory sooner and as an act of high justice to the patriotic women of the United States.

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SIGN HERE \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

*(Handwritten signatures and addresses follow)*

"The right 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"

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF STATE  
LEGISLATURES**

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
LAFAYETTE SQUARE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

**ILLINOIS BRANCH**

**Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage**

STEVENS BUILDING, CHICAGO, ILL.

**ILLINOIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Mrs. CHARLES W. KERR  
Miss Anna Barker  
Mrs. JENNIE M. LAMONT  
Miss ANNE M. MANN  
Miss FRANK PONTINGHAM  
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MRS. WILLIAM C. COTY, M. C.  
MRS. LAWRENCE LEWIS, M. C.  
MRS. JAMES KEATING, M. C.

July 5, 1916.

**NATIONAL ADHOCORIT COMMITTEE**

Address: National Headquarters  
Washington, D. C.

To Honorable Champ Clark,  
Speaker of the House,  
Washington, D. C.

Women of the First Congressional District of Illinois assembled in Chicago on July 5th, 1916, under the auspices of the National Woman's Party, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, the voting women of our Congressional District know that the present democratic administration has it within their power to immediately pass a constitutional amendment enfranchising women;

Whereas, women realize that after sixty years of senseless effort, it is an impossibility beyond human endeavor to secure the nation-wide enfranchisement of women by and through state action;

Whereas, "Votes for women" is not an economic, industrial or financial proposition, dependent upon climatic or geographical conditions but is a matter of human liberty essentially democratic, it belongs to the democratic party which stands for liberty and equality to pass this constitutional amendment.

It is further resolved: that the women of the first Congressional District hold this Democratic administration responsible for the passage of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment at the present session of Congress.

(Signed) Frances C. Temple  
Minna S. Jones  
Cora R. McMillin

*L: Petitions of Citizens of California in Favor of a Suffrage Amendment.* [National Archives Identifier 169164461](#)

*R: Petition of Women of the First Congressional District of Illinois in Favor of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.* [National Archives Identifier 167059974](#)

These records include petitions to Congress for and against suffrage for women, resolutions, letters, telegrams, endorsements, resolutions, and memorials. [Every word you transcribe](#) helps make the records easier to find in the Catalog.

New to the citizen archivist program? [Learn how to register and get started.](#)

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## #19SuffrageStories

The campaign for women's suffrage was long, difficult, and often dramatic.

Diverse communities and organizations blazed the trail for equal voting rights across the nation. For many women, especially women of color, the fight didn't end when the 19th Amendment went into effect on August 26, 1920. Yet the stories of these suffragists have often been overlooked.



To mark the centennial of the 19th Amendment, the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, and National Archives are [collaborating to bring these stories to you on social media.](#)



Follow #19SuffrageStories on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) now until August 26 to learn voting-rights history from the [Library of Congress](#) (@LibraryCongress on Instagram and Twitter), the [National Archives](#) (@USNatArchives), and the [Smithsonian](#) (@Smithsonian) about the many, diverse women who fought for voting rights, long before and long after the amendment passed.

Join us and use our [set of animated social media GIFs](#) and Instagram stickers on your social media posts to mark the centennial.



We also invite you to join the National Archives online as we highlight records from our holdings and examine the fight for women's voting rights through virtual public programs for all ages. Throughout August, we will explore the complex story of the struggle for women's suffrage, leading up to and beyond the certification of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 1920. Visit our [19th Amendment Centennial Events](#) page to view and sign up for our events, programs and activities.

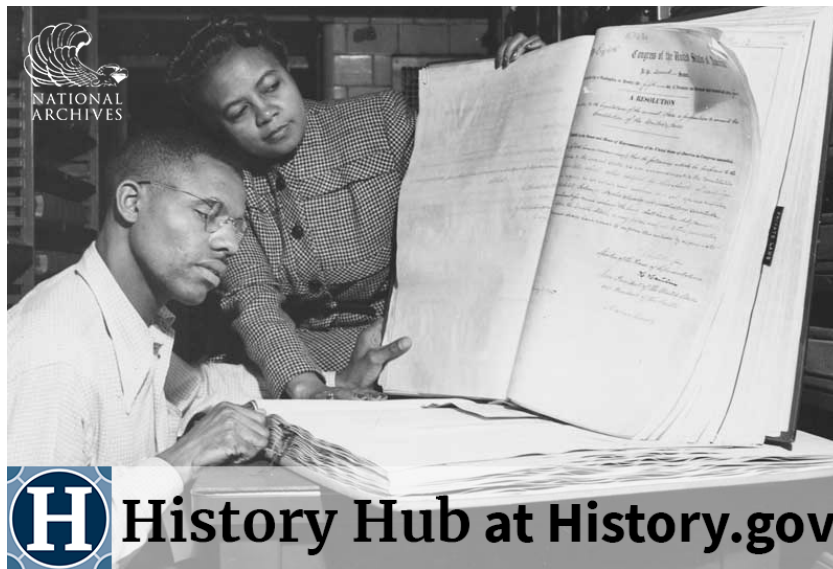


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## History Hub

Have a question? [Find your answer on History Hub!](#)

History Hub is our support community for researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, and citizen archivists. Ask questions, share information, work together, and find help based on experience and interests. Researchers can ask—or answer—questions on [History Hub](#), or search to see if a question has been asked before.



[Citizen Archivists, there's a group just for you!](#) You can share tips and strategies, find new challenges, and get support for your work.

Once you've signed up, check out our poll:

[What kinds of records do you like to transcribe?](#) →

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### **COVID-19 Update**

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit <https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus>

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Questions or comments? Email us at [catalog@nara.gov](mailto:catalog@nara.gov).





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