



City of Chicago



R2019-409

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/12/2019

Sponsor(s): Lightfoot (Mayor)
King (4)
Hairston (5)

Type: Resolution

Title: Recognition of June 10, 2019, as "Day to Celebrate Women's Right to Vote" and role Illinois played in Women's Suffragate Movement

Committee(s) Assignment:



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

June 12, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen King and Hairston, a resolution commemorating women's suffrage.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori E. Lightfoot".

Mayor

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Illinois has long been at the forefront of the movement to provide women the right to vote. The first local women's suffrage association in Illinois was established in the City of Earlville in LaSalle County in 1855, just seven years after the July 1848 Woman's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York, launched the women's suffrage movement; and

WHEREAS, The first statewide women's suffrage organization in Illinois, initially named the Illinois Woman Suffrage Association, was established in Chicago in 1869. It was later renamed the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association; and

WHEREAS, In 1891, Illinois enacted legislation giving women the right to cast ballots in local school elections; and

WHEREAS, On January 30, 1913, Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Belle Squire founded the Alpha Suffrage Club, which is believed to be the first black women's suffrage association in the United States; and

WHEREAS, On June 26, 1913, Illinois enacted the Illinois Suffrage Act, giving women the right to vote for presidential electors and in municipal elections. With its enactment, Illinois became the first state east of the Mississippi River to grant women the right to vote for the President of the United States, a step widely credited for advancing the women's suffrage movement across the Nation; and

WHEREAS, On June 4, 1919, Congress enacted the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, giving women the full right to vote, and transmitted the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution to the states for ratification. Six days later, on June 10, 1919, Illinois became the first state in the Union to ratify the 19th Amendment, leading the way for its eventual ratification on August 20, 1920 by the necessary three-fourths of the several states; and

WHEREAS, The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution went into full force and effect on August 26, 1920; and

WHEREAS, Many Chicago women of all classes, races, ethnicities and politics worked tirelessly to secure the right to vote, including Mary Livermore, Myra Bradwell, Kate Doggett, Celia Parker Woolley, Catharine Waugh McCulloch, Grace Wilbur Trout, Jane Addams, Elizabeth Maloney, Agnes Nestor, Flora Witkowsky, Corinne Brown, Mary Fitzbutler Waring, Mary C. Byron, and Emma Steghagen, to name but a few; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twelfth day of June, 2019, do hereby declare June 10, 2019, as a day to celebrate the right of women to vote and to acknowledge the critical role played by the State of Illinois in securing that right for women.

A resolution



adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*

Presented by Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, Aldermen Leslie A. Hairston and Sophia D. King on June 12, 2019

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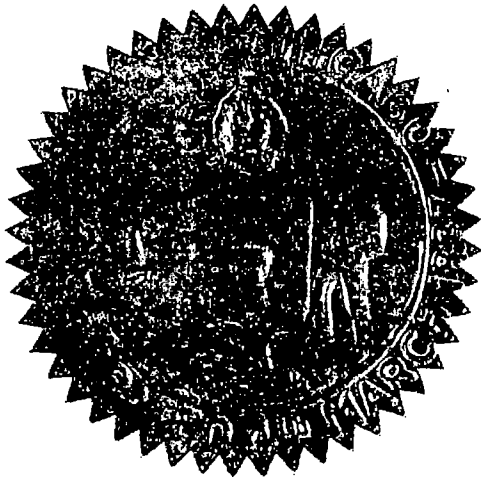
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Ricardo E. Santorum

MAYOR

Andrea H. Valencia

CITY CLERK