

# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*

### **IN HONOR OF THE 102<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the bold, courageous, and powerful women who fought for the ratification of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution on August 18, 1920, deserve special celebration by the City of Albany, especially on the 102nd anniversary of its ratification; and

**WHEREAS**, California was the 18th state to ratify the 19th Amendment on November 1, 1919; and

**WHEREAS**, California holds a special place in women's suffrage history as thousands of California women advocated for the right to vote on the streets, in the newspapers, in the state capital and throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, California women gained the right to vote with the passage of Amendment 8 to the state constitution in 1911 – nearly a decade before women voted nationally; and

**WHEREAS**, the 19th Amendment did not guarantee suffrage for all women, including Native Americans who did not gain the right to vote until 1924 and Asian Pacific Islander Americans in 1952; African American and Latinx Americans suffered voter suppression until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and 1975; Voting rights are currently under stress across the country in ways that target BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) voters, including women; and

**WHEREAS**, the fact that today women are active in local, state, and national government and are running for office in unprecedented numbers reminds us that we all follow in the footsteps of these resolute American suffragists; and

**WHEREAS**, the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution has played an important role in advancing the right of all women; and

**WHEREAS**, recent rulings by the Supreme Court leave many women believing their rights are being stripped away, especially those involving health care.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Albany City Council hereby recommends that residents and civic institutions:

- Celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States; and

- Honor the role of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in further promoting the core values of our democracy as promised by the Constitution of the United States; and
- Reaffirm the opportunity for students and adults in the City to learn about and commemorate the efforts of the women's suffrage movement and the role of women in our democracy; and
- Reaffirm our desire to continue to strengthen democratic participation and to inspire future generations to cherish and preserve the historic precedent established under the 19th Amendment; and

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED**, that the Albany City Council declares August 26, 2022, as Women's Equality Day in the City of Albany, calling attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality for ALL women.

DATED: July 18, 2022

  
PRESTON JORDAN, MAYOR