

PROCLAMATION
OF THE
MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RECOGNIZING
the 100th Anniversary of the
19th Amendment to the United States Constitution

WHEREAS, the bold, courageous and powerful women who fought decades for the ratification of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution with the final necessary 36th state adoption on August 18, 1920, deserve special celebration by the County of Mendocino, especially on the 100th anniversary of the ratification and onward celebrations of equality taking place on August 26, the day the Amendment was certified in 1920; and

WHEREAS, California was the 18th state to ratify the 19th Amendment on November 1, 1919 and 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, at the state capital and throughout the great 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, followed by Asian Pacific Islander Americans in 1952. The African-American and Latin Americans suffered voter suppression until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and 1975; 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 played an important role in advancing the right of all women in the Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino hereby advocates that residents and civic institutions celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States; to honor the role of the ratification in further promoting the core values of our democracy as promised by the Constitution of the United States; reaffirm the opportunity for students and adults in the county 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.

Dated: August 18, 2020

John Haschak, Chair