

No. R-411. House concurrent resolution celebrating the centennial of universal women's suffrage and General Assembly membership.

(H.C.R.329)

House concurrent resolution celebrating the centennial of universal women's suffrage and General Assembly membership

Offered by: All Members of the House of Representatives

Whereas, as long ago as 1777, Abigail Adams wrote that women "will not hold ourselves bound by any laws [in] which we have no voice," and

Whereas, in 1848, the first Women's Rights Conference convened in Seneca Falls, New York, and in 1850, the first National Women's Rights Convention assembled in Worcester, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, with this foundation, in 1878, the women's suffrage amendment to the U.S. Constitution started its long enactment journey, eventually achieving congressional approval as the 19th Amendment on June 4, 1919; the states' ratification was finalized with Tennessee's approval on August 18, 1920; and federal certification occurred on August 26, 1920, and

Whereas, 28,159 Vermont women registered to vote in the 1920 election, and

Whereas, in Vermont, the 19th Amendment qualified Edna Beard of Orange to stand for election to State office, and she became the first female member of the Vermont House of Representatives in 1921 and, two years later, achieved a similar distinction in the Vermont Senate, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly celebrates the centennial of universal women's suffrage and General Assembly membership, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Suffrage Centennial Alliance, a project of the League of Women Voters of Vermont's Education Fund, and to the Vermont Commission on Women.