

PROCLAMATION



Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, women of all races and ethnicities fought for the right to vote from the founding of our country; the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution was officially certified on August 26, 1920, after a 72-year battle, granting the right to vote regardless of sex; and

WHEREAS, although the 19th Amendment was a milestone in women's equality, it did not immediately guarantee the right to vote for all women. Japanese, Asian Indian, Chinese American, Filipino, and Native American women were not eligible to become naturalized and, therefore, could not vote until 1952 for Asian American women and 1957 for Native American women; and

WHEREAS, African American women faced discrimination and racism at the polls until the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and it was another 10 years before Latina women gained the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote did not come easily for women and people of color in the United States, and we must remain vigilant against barriers that disenfranchise any citizen's sexual orientation, identity, socioeconomic status, color, education, or disability; and

WHEREAS, on August 16, 1973, with the authorization of Congress, President Richard M. Nixon issued Proclamation 4236 and every President since 1973 has issued a proclamation designating August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, August 26, 2020 as

Women's Equality and 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration Day

in Appleton and encourage all citizens to join in the commemoration of this historic day to honor all women who have fought for and won the right to vote in all national elections.

Signed and sealed this 5th day of August 2020.



JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON