

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 292

Designating August, in 2021 and in each succeeding year, as Women's Suffrage Month in Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 27, 2021

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 24, 2021

WHEREAS, an organized movement to enfranchise women began in July 1848 at a convention in Seneca Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, brave and courageous women, referred to as suffragists, sacrificed their personal lives, their financial resources, and time with their families over the course of more than 70 years to gain equal rights for women, especially the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, women and men of all races and creeds supported the movement for women to gain the constitutional right to have an equal voice in making the laws that govern them; and

WHEREAS, the women's suffrage movement led to the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1919, with ratification by the last state necessary on August 18, 1920; and

WHEREAS, 2020 marked the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote in the United States and offered an opportunity to appreciate the impact these historic accomplishments have had on citizen engagement in the electoral process and on civic life at local, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, women constitute a majority of voters in the nation, are running for office in higher numbers, and are more active in the election process than ever before in history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly designate August, in 2021 and in each succeeding year, as Women's Suffrage Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

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