



HR0397

LRB101 12443 ALS 60576 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Illinois had long been at the forefront of the
3 movement to provide women the right to vote; and

4 WHEREAS, In Illinois, the women's suffrage association was
5 established in Earlville in LaSalle County in 1855, just seven
6 years after the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls
7 New York, which called for suffrage for women; and

8 WHEREAS, The Illinois Woman Suffrage Association, the
9 first statewide suffrage organization, was established in
10 1869; the organization became the Illinois Equal Suffrage
11 Association in 1981; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1891, Illinois enacted a law allowing women the
13 right to vote for elective school offices; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1913, Illinois enacted the Presidential
15 Suffrage Bill, which gave Illinois women the right to vote in
16 federal and municipal elections, which were not otherwise
17 restricted to men only by the Illinois Constitution; and

18 WHEREAS, With the enactment of that law, Illinois became
19 the first state east of the Mississippi River to give women
20 such right to vote for President of the United States and is

1 credited with being a major positive influence in advancing the
2 women's suffrage movement in the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1919, the proposed 19th Amendment to
4 the United States Constitution was passed by the United States
5 Congress and sent to the States for ratification; and

6 WHEREAS, 100 years ago on June 10, 1919, Illinois became
7 the first State to ratify the 19th Amendment, one hour prior to
8 Wisconsin; and

9 WHEREAS, Illinois led the way for the necessary
10 three-fourths of the States to ratify the 19th Amendment, which
11 became part of the Constitution on August 26, 1920; therefore,
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we declare June 10, 2019 as a day to celebrate women's right to
16 vote and the important role Illinois played in achieving that
17 right in the United States.