

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 305198  
DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE SEP 11 2009

WHEREAS, in July 1848, when civil rights activists Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Coffin Mott organized the first Women’s Rights Convention, American women had only limited financial, legal and political power. In fact, between 1777 and 1807, the voting rights of women had been explicitly revoked in all the states. From the Seneca Falls Convention heroes emerged who would lead the long, difficult struggle to gain universal suffrage — a right upon which all others depend. Risking scorn, violence and arrest, suffragists organized marches, boycotts and fasts, while mobilizing millions in support of the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 1776, Abigail Adams wrote a letter to her husband John requesting that, when establishing “a code of laws” for the new republic, he “Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors . . . ”; and

WHEREAS, on August 26, 1920, the women's suffrage movement accomplished this significant goal through the ratification of the 19th Amendment to U.S. Constitution that, almost 150 years after our country’s founding, guaranteed American women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, the anniversary of this triumph has been commemorated annually since 1971, when, at the behest of Representative Bella Abzug, Congress designated August 26th as Women’s Equality Day. In the years since, this date has been set aside to honor the accomplishments of women throughout our history and to renew the commitment to equality for women throughout our world; and

WHEREAS, today we not only recognize the great progress that has been made in “remembering the ladies,” but also rededicate ourselves to sustained vigilance for equal rights and supporting passage of an Equal Rights Amendment; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby proclaim August 26, 2009, to be "WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY" in the City of San Diego and does hereby honor the courage and perseverance of both those who helped secure women's suffrage in the United States and those who continue the struggle for equality, wherever in the world they may be.

APPROVED: JAN I. GOLDSMITH, City Attorney

By Sharon B. Spivak  
Sharon B. Spivak  
Deputy City Attorney

SBS:jdf  
08/13/09  
Or.Dept:Council-Frye  
R-2010-98

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of SEP 01 2009.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND  
City Clerk  
By [Signature]  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 9-11-09  
(date)

[Signature]  
JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
JERRY SANDERS, Mayor