

Resolution



ORDER NO. 2019-0825

DATE: AUGUST 20, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 20th day of August, 2019, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1 and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, Nearly 100 years ago, women around the US protested, picketed, and were imprisoned to secure their constitutional right to vote. Elizabeth Cady Stanton proclaimed in 1848 at the Seneca Falls Convention in New York, "The right is ours. Have it we must. Use it we will. The pens, the tongues, the fortunes, the indomitable wills of many women are already pledged to secure this right. The great truth, that no just government can be formed without the consent of the governed..." and

WHEREAS, In 1893, the Texas State Fair at Fair Park in Dallas featured a woman's congress of over 300 women. The congress was organized by suffragist Dr. Ellen Lawson Dabbs, secretary of the Texas Equal Rights Association. From 1913-1917, the fair also featured a "Suffrage Day" when local suffragists would gather and promote women's voting rights; and

WHEREAS, Women continued to fight and in 1920 the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was ratified. The amendment prohibited denying any citizen the right to vote based on gender was finally law. Texas was the ninth state in the Union, and the first southern state, to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; and


WHEREAS, Women have defended and embraced their constitutional right to be treated as equal citizens of this nation and to freely exercise their civic duties. Women have taken leadership roles at all levels of government – county, city, state, and national – paving the way and creating opportunities for all those who will follow; and


WHEREAS, Today, only 19.6% of elected officials in Congress are women, and during the 2016 presidential election, one in every three women eligible to vote did not cast a ballot. In local government, two women serve as Dallas County Commissioners, 40% of the five member court and four women serve as Dallas City Council Members, 26% of the fifteen council members. There is still much work to be done to achieve truly equal representation; and


WHEREAS, We recognize women face discrimination in hiring, healthcare and housing. The inequity is even greater among women of color in political representation, wages, and healthcare. In a 2017 Pew Research Center survey, about 42% of working women said they have experienced gender discrimination at work. In a time of heightened awareness about the treatment of women, we pledge our support in fighting inequality of any kind.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim August 26, 2019 as **Women's Equality Day** in Dallas County. Dallas County joins the nation in celebrating and uplifting women everywhere.

DONE IN OPEN COURT on this the 20th day of August, 2019.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


J.J. Koch, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4