

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 475

Recognizing the leading role of Utahns in the fight for women's suffrage and celebrating the sesquicentennial of the first votes by women under the equal suffrage law of Utah on February 14, 1870.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 16, 2020

Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the leading role of Utahns in the fight for women's suffrage and celebrating the sesquicentennial of the first votes by women under the equal suffrage law of Utah on February 14, 1870.

Whereas, on February 10, 1870, the territorial legislature of Utah passed an Act granting women the right to vote, which was signed into law on February 12, 1870, by Acting Governor Stephen Mann;

Whereas, on February 14, 1870, women voted in the Salt Lake City election, becoming the first women to vote under an equal suffrage law within what is now the United States;

Whereas, in 1887, Congress revoked the voting rights of women in Utah;

Whereas, on November 5, 1895, the new Utah Constitution was adopted with a provision stating, “The rights of citizens of the State of Utah to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. Both male and female citizens of this State shall enjoy equally all civil, political and religious rights and privileges.”;

Whereas, on November 3, 1896, Martha Maria Hughes Cannon, who will be honored by a statue in the United States Capitol in 2020, was elected to the Utah State Senate and became the first woman to serve as a State senator in the United States; and

Whereas, in 1919, women’s suffrage was extended to all United States citizens with the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the leading role of Utahns in the
3 fight for women’s suffrage and the adoption of the
4 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United
5 States guaranteeing that the “right of citizens of the
6 United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged
7 by the United States or by any State on account of
8 sex”; and

9 (2) celebrates the sesquicentennial of the first
10 votes by women under the equal suffrage law of
11 Utah on February 14, 1870.

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