

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified as follows: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."; and

WHEREAS, Queen Lili'uokalani of the Kingdom of Hawai'i was a powerful symbol of women's ability to govern and participate in civic life; and

WHEREAS, in 1920, Hawai'i was not yet a state and therefore could not vote on the 19th Amendment, yet ratification enfranchised Hawaiian women along with their mainland sisters; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is proud to honor the achievements of all women, past and present, who have been steadfast in support of equal rights and full citizenship; and

WHEREAS, following in the footsteps of the great suffragists throughout our nation's history, Hawai'i has been memorialized and fortified by the exemplary leadership of numerous influential women who have worked to perpetuate the legacy of women making their voices heard; and

WHEREAS, while most of the women who began asking for the right to vote never lived to see the enfranchisement of women, modern history is filled with women running for office and engaging in civic life in unprecedented numbers; and

WHEREAS, today, August 18, 2020 is a day to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 18, 2020 the

"19TH AMENDMENT RATIFICATION CENTENNIAL"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in its observance, celebrating Women's achievements, and reaffirming our commitment to the tenet of equality enshrined in the U.S. Constitution that has empowered women across our great State to pursue social, political, and economic equality for all – regardless of sex, race, color or national origin.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourteenth day of August 2020.

DAVID Y. IGE Governor, State of Hawai'i

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