

Proclamation

WHEREAS, 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the founding of the League of Women Voters; and

WHEREAS, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting American women the right to vote, was passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920, when Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment; and

WHEREAS, born out of the suffrage movement, a 72-year struggle to secure women's right to vote, the League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt on February 14, 1920, and began as a mighty political experiment designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters, and encourage them to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy; and

WHEREAS, with the belief that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy, the League is an activist, grassroots, nonpartisan organization dedicated to educating citizens, lobbying for government and social reform legislation, and working on vital issues of concern to its members and the public; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters operates at national, state and local levels through more than 700 state and local Leagues, in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., the Virgin Islands, and Hong Kong; and

WHEREAS, established in 1948, the League of Women Voters of Honolulu has been involved in coordinating and moderating campaign debates and forums, conducting meetings and conferences on public policy issues, registering voters, assisting in vote counts, providing candidate data, serving on state and city commissions and advisory committees, and submitting testimony to the state legislature on critical issues of concern; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters is a recognized and respected force in molding political leaders, shaping public policy, and promoting informed citizen participation at all levels of government,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, do hereby proclaim February 14, 2020, to be

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS DAY

to join the League of Women Voters in celebrating its first centennial, express appreciation for the League's service and commitment to our residents and community, and extend best wishes for continued success in "Creating a More Perfect Democracy."



Done this 10th day of January, 2020, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

KIRK CALDWELL