



Women's Equality Day

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY IS CELEBRATED IN THE UNITED STATES ON **AUGUST 26** TO COMMEMORATE THE 1920 ADOPTION OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, WHICH PROHIBITS THE STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM DENYING WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE.¹ THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT WAS THE ENGINE MOVING THE CHARGE TO WIN THOSE RIGHTS. ACTIVISTS AND REFORMERS FOUGHT THE CAMPAIGN FOR NEARLY 100 YEARS.⁴ CONGRESSWOMAN BELLA ABZUG INTRODUCED A PROCLAMATION FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY IN 1971 TO COMMEMORATE THE 19TH AMENDMENT.¹



EVERY PRESIDENT, SINCE RICHARD NIXON, HAS ISSUED A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING AUGUST 26 AS WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY, HOWEVER, THE LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE TO DO SO.¹

ON AUGUST 25, 2016, PRESIDENT OBAMA'S PROCLAMATION READ, IN PART:

*TODAY, AS WE CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THIS HARD-WON ACHIEVEMENT AND PAY TRIBUTE TO THE TRAILBLAZERS AND SUFFRAGISTS WHO MOVED US CLOSER TO A MORE JUST AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE, WE RESOLVE TO PROTECT THIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AND PLEDGE TO CONTINUE FIGHTING FOR EQUALITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.*²

HerStory
Her Voice



Sources:

1. <http://fortune.com/2017/08/25/womens-equality-day-celebrates-19th-amendment/>
2. <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/08/25/presidential-proclamation-womens-equality-day-2016> (President Obama's 2016 Proclamation)
3. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/president-donald-j-trump-proclaims-august-26-2017-womens-equality-day/> (President Trump's 2017 Proclamation)
4. <https://www.history.com/topics/womens-history/the-fight-for-womens-suffrage>