

House Concurrent Resolution 204

Sponsored by Representatives MOORE-GREEN, DRAZAN, Senator STEINER HAYWARD, Representatives HELT, SMITH WARNER, Senator BOLES; Representatives BOSHART DAVIS, BREESE-IVERSON, DOHERTY, GOMBERG, KOTEK, LEIF, NOBLE, PILUSO, POST, PRUSAK, RESCHKE, SANCHEZ, SMITH DB, SPRENGER, ZIKA, Senators BOQUIST, GIROD, GOLDEN, HANSELL, HEARD, KNOPP, MANNING JR, PROZANSKI, RILEY, THATCHER (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Commemorates centennial of Oregon's ratification of Nineteenth Amendment to United States Constitution and honors those who led woman suffrage campaign in Oregon.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas the centennial of Oregon's ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United
3 States Constitution, which placed women's voting rights in the constitution, occurred on January
4 14, 2020; and

5 Whereas most Oregon women achieved voting rights on November 5, 1912, after a decades-long
6 struggle on the part of diverse women and men across this state, including some women of color
7 who braved systemic discrimination in order to participate; and

8 Whereas after achieving the vote in 1912, and before the ratification of the Nineteenth Amend-
9 ment in 1920, many Oregon women engaged in the rights and obligations of voting citizenship by
10 registering to vote, educating themselves and others about candidates and ballot measures, voting
11 in municipal, state and national elections, running for elected office and serving in elected office at
12 the local and statewide levels, which provided a foundation for future civic engagement on the part
13 of Oregon women after 1920; and

14 Whereas Oregon women worked for the successful passage of the federal suffrage amendment
15 through their membership in the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the National
16 Woman's Party; and

17 Whereas in his "Message to the Special Session" on January 12, 1920, Oregon Governor Ben
18 W. Olcott expressed his pleasure at forwarding the federal suffrage amendment to the Oregon leg-
19 islature for ratification and urged legislators to ratify it unanimously; and

20 Whereas Representative Sylvia Thompson (D-The Dalles), the third woman to serve in the
21 Oregon legislature, and Senator Robert Farrell Sr. (R-Multnomah County) sponsored a resolution to
22 ratify the Nineteenth Amendment on January 12, 1920, the first day of the 1920 legislative special
23 session; and

24 Whereas the members of the Oregon House of Representatives and Senate voted unanimously
25 to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment, which reads: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote
26 shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress
27 shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."; and

28 Whereas House Joint Resolution 1 (1920), the Oregon measure ratifying the Nineteenth Amend-
29 ment, was filed with the Secretary of State on January 14, 1920, making Oregon the 25th state to

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 ratify; and

2 Whereas the Nineteenth Amendment was officially adopted on August 26, 1920; and

3 Whereas since 1920, Oregonians have challenged continuing barriers to voting rights by partic-
4 ipating in civil rights struggles to extend human rights to all citizens; now, therefore,

5 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

6 That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, commemorate the centennial of
7 Oregon's ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, and we honor
8 the efforts of the many great women and men who led the woman suffrage campaign in Oregon.

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