



Date: August 5, 2024

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: Teresa Chandler, Deputy City Manager 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Commission for Women and Girls Recommendation to Proclaim August 26 Women's Equality Day in Long Beach**

On July 24, 2024, the Commission for Women and Girls (CWG) approved a recommendation to transmit a letter to the Mayor and City Council recommending the adoption of a proclamation to recognize August 26, 2024, as Women's Equality Day in the City of Long Beach.

Please find CWG's letter to the Mayor and City Council enclosed.

If you would like any further information, please contact Alanah Grant, Equity Officer, at (562) 570-6656 or Alanah.Grant@longbeach.gov.

ATTACHMENT

CC: DAWN MCINTOSH, CITY ATTORNEY
DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
APRIL WALKER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
TERESA CHANDLER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
MEREDITH REYNOLDS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
GRACE YOON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
TYLER BONANNO-CURLEY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK
DEPARTMENT HEADS

Commission for Women & Girls

Samantha Mehlinger, Chair
Zoe Nicholson, Vice Chair
Jennifer Allen Harper, Commissioner
Dr. Stephanie Anckle, Commissioner
Irma Archuletta, Commissioner
Sathya Chey, Commissioner



Helena Donato-Sapp, Commissioner
Maria Gonzalez, Commissioner
Maleka Lassiter, Commissioner
Alyce LaViolette, Commissioner
Vanessa Mosqueda, Commissioner

July 24, 2024

Hon. Mayor Rex Richardson and Members of the City Council
City of Long Beach
411 West Ocean Blvd, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Request to Proclaim August 26, 2024, Women's Equality Day in the City of Long Beach

Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and Members of the City Council,

It is with great enthusiasm the recently convened Commission for Women's & Girls, is making her first appeal to the City of Long Beach Mayor, Vice Mayor, Councilwomen, and Councilmen to issue a proclamation to declare and celebrate August 26, 2024 as Women's Equality Day.

On August 26, 1920, the US Secretary of State, Bainbridge Colby, signed into law the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Sorrowfully, the 19th Amendment only guaranteed votes for White Women. In the years that ensued, over 12 Congressional bills passed expanding voting rights to include Native Americans, The Magnuson Act which repealed Chinese Exclusion, the Voting Age Act, the Disabilities Act, Military Absentee Act, and the Civil Rights Act, among others.

The August 26 suffrage anniversary was celebrated by some educators and women's organizations. Finally in 1973, at the urging of Rep. Bella Abzug, Congress officially designated August 26 to be National Women's Equality Day. You won't find it on most retail calendars as women battle invisibility. The banks will be open and mail delivered, but for millions of Women & Girls, National Women's Equality is important.

Though women are still, after 101 years, working for Constitutional inclusion, politicians know that WE VOTE. In the 2020 election, more women than men registered and voted. Women understand that when Women Vote, Women Win. As elected officials, you know that harvesting the Women's Vote is essential, and it is done by addressing and honoring that every issue is a woman's issue.

Ever since 1973, the President of the United States and leaders across the country have issued proclamations designating August 26 to be Women's Equality Day. We are confident and grateful that the City Council will join in this national celebration and proclaim August 26, 2024 as Women's Equality Day in the City of Long Beach.