

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing August 26, 2017, as "Women's Equality Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 1971, the Congress of the United States declared  
4 August 26 as "Women's Equality Day" at the request of  
5 Representative Bella Abzug, Democrat, of New York; and

6 WHEREAS, The observance commemorated the passage and  
7 ratification in 1920 of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution  
8 of the United States, granting women the right to vote; and

9 WHEREAS, Passed by Congress in 1919, the 19th Amendment  
10 resulted from a peaceful women's rights movement which had  
11 officially begun in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York; and

12 WHEREAS, The Seneca Falls Convention yielded the Declaration  
13 of Sentiments, a key document which Frederick Douglass called  
14 the "grand movement for attaining the civil, social, political,  
15 and religious rights of women"; and

16 WHEREAS, From the mid-19th century through the early 20th  
17 century, women's rights activists, such as Elizabeth Cady

1 Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Stone, Alice Paul  
2 and Lucy Burns, organized, wrote, spoke and picketed in order to  
3 gain voting rights for all women; and

4 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1919, after much congressional debate,  
5 the proposed constitutional amendment providing for women's  
6 suffrage passed by a vote of 56-25; and

7 WHEREAS, On August 18, 1920, Tennessee was the final state to  
8 ratify the 19th Amendment; and

9 WHEREAS, The monumental passage of the 19th Amendment marked  
10 the first of many victories in the women's rights movement; and

11 WHEREAS, "Women's Equality Day" commemorates the landmark  
12 achievement of the passage and ratification of the 19th  
13 Amendment, while calling attention to continuing efforts in the  
14 attainment of full equality for women; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize August  
16 26, 2017, as "Women's Equality Day" in Pennsylvania and  
17 encourage all Pennsylvanians to participate in related events in  
18 their communities.