

PROCLAMATION

Recognizing the Centennial Celebration of the

19th Amendment and the Contributions of Romney, West Virginia

WHEREAS in 1848 people gathered in Seneca Falls, New York for the first time in a national display against the unfairness of depriving women of the right to vote, and

WHEREAS the fight for women's suffrage lasted more than 72 years among women from all walks of life, political views and demographic backgrounds asking for the right to voice their opinions at the ballot box, and

WHEREAS on June 4, 1919 both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate passed the 19th Amendment supporting equal suffrage and sent the measure to the states for ratification, and

WHEREAS on March 10, 1920, West Virginia became the 34th state to ratify the 19th Amendment and without West Virginia's ratification of the 19th Amendment, it would not have been ratified in 1920, and

WHEREAS the citizens and government leaders of Romney, West Virginia find it fitting and proper to recognize the leadership role that this county's leaders, such as John and Edna Cornwell, Garnett Kump, Margaret Inskeep Keller, and J. Sloan Kuykendall played in the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, and

WHEREAS the State of West Virginia, the County of Hampshire, the town of Romney will celebrate West Virginia's passage of the 19th Amendment annually to inspire, cherish and preserve the historic precedent set by Romney's politicians by recognizing their struggles in ratifying the 19th Amendment, and

WHEREAS to celebrate and commemorate West Virginia's ratification of the 19th Amendment and the role of women in our democracy that the schools develop curriculum to pass on the memories of the town's great people to its children, and

WHEREAS the women of the State of West Virginia are given recognition for their roles in influencing the men to rally to their cry of equal suffrage, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Romney Town Council will endorse this proclamation at its next meeting and implement those actions outlined in this proclamation to ensure preservation of the rich history of this great town.