



National Association of Women Lawyers
Empowering Women in the Legal Profession Since 1899

Resolution Supporting Voting Rights in the United States

The following resolution was approved by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Women Lawyers (“NAWL”) on the 27th day of August, 2021.

WHEREAS the mission of the National Association of Women Lawyers is to provide leadership, a collective voice, and essential resources to advance women in the legal profession and advocate for the equality of women under the law;

WHEREAS the National Association of Women Lawyers was established in 1899 and has been empowering women in the legal profession and cultivating a diverse membership dedicated to equality, mutual support and collective success for over one hundred twenty years;

WHEREAS the right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy, the right from which all other rights ultimately flow;

WHEREAS, the first advocacy initiative of the National Association of Women Lawyers was women’s suffrage, and NAWL since has long supported and advocated for voting rights, particularly, the right for women to vote, and, more broadly, the “full enjoyment of all the rights and privileges of citizenship” for all U.S. citizens (*Women Lawyers Journal* 1911);

WHEREAS continuing this legacy, the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) adopted a resolution on October 6, 2020, “to actively oppose structural racism and combat the impact of systematic racism by reiterating and reinforcing NAWL’s commitment to racial equity and justice;”

WHEREAS the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States granted that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and

WHEREAS the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States granted that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex; and

WHEREAS legislation that creates barriers preventing eligible voters from exercising their right to vote has a disproportionate impact on voting access for women and people of color;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the National Association of Women Lawyers remains steadfast in its commitment to protect voting rights and access to the polls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the National Association of Women Lawyers supports legislation



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that would expand, restore, and strengthen equal access and protection of the right to vote for eligible voters, and opposes legislation that creates barriers preventing eligible voters from exercising their right to vote, which disproportionately impact women and people of color;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the National Association of Women Lawyers commits to advocate at the federal, state, and local level for laws and policies that will ensure all eligible voters may exercise their right to vote as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the United States, to partner with organizations who research and advocate for laws and policies that advance and support this fundamental right, and to offer programming and resources for our members and partners to provide education, discussion, exploration, and opportunities to advance laws and policies that have the effect of expanding, restoring, and strengthening voting rights and access to the polls.