

# 19<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT IN IOWA

GIVING  
WOMEN  
THE RIGHT  
TO VOTE



## IOWAN, CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

Women's suffrage leader and president of the  
National American Woman Suffrage Association



“WOMEN HAVE  
SUFFERED AN AGONY  
OF SOUL WHICH  
YOU CAN NEVER  
COMPREHEND,  
THAT YOU AND  
YOUR DAUGHTERS  
MIGHT INHERIT  
POLITICAL FREEDOM.

THAT VOTE  
HAS BEEN  
COSTLY.  
PRIZE IT.”

— Carrie Chapman Catt



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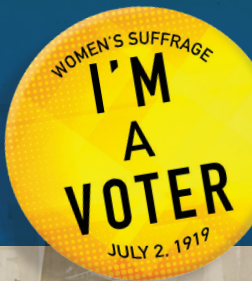
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When the nation's founders drafted the Constitution in 1787, they made no mention of women having the right to vote.

THE FIGHT TO WIN WOMEN THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT EASILY OR QUICKLY WON. TO WIN WOMEN ACCESS TO THE POLLS, A DIVERSE GROUP OF SUFFRAGISTS—INDIVIDUALS WHO SUPPORTED GIVING VOTING RIGHTS TO WOMEN—FOUGHT FOR MORE THAN 70 YEARS USING MANY DIFFERENT OF STRATEGIES:

- Some focused on amending the U.S. Constitution while others worked to change state election laws.
- Suffragists lobbied privately in their parlors and publicly in the halls of Congress.
- They wrote articles, circulated petitions, gave speeches, organized marches, and were sometimes imprisoned for their protests.
- Over time these tactics won support for woman suffrage that led to the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920.
- To change the constitution, 36 states had to ratify the amendment. Iowa was the 10th state to ratify the change on July 2, 1919.



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