

Events Leading to the Founding of the LWV

- 1840**.....London World Anti-Slavery Convention. Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, two of the eight American delegates, were denied seats because they were women.
- 1848**.....Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton convened the Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, NY. A provision of the Convention Declaration called for woman suffrage.
- 1851**.....Susan B. Anthony met Elizabeth Cady Stanton and began her life long work for woman suffrage.
- 1869**.....Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony formed the National Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) to advocate for a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the vote to women. . . Lucy Stone and Julia Ward Howe helped form the rival American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) to press for state-by-state inclusion of suffrage in state constitutions. . . Wyoming Territory granted suffrage to women.
- 1870’s**.....Women were granted the right to vote in school elections.
- 1875**.....Susan B. Anthony drew up wording for a woman suffrage amendment – the exact wording of the 19th Amendment – which was not adopted until 1920.
- 1878**.....The Woman Suffrage Amendment (became known as the Anthony Amendment) was introduced in Congress and was introduced every session until it passed.
- 1892**.....Anthony succeeded Stanton as president of the NAWSA. It merged with the AWSA to become the NAWSA with Anthony as president.
- 1900**.....Carrie Chapman Catt succeeded Anthony as president of the NAWSA. She resigned in 1904 to care for her ill husband.
- 1906**.....Oklahoma had an opportunity to write woman suffrage into its new constitution, but failed to do so fearing black women would vote in large numbers.
- 1904-1915** ...Dr. Anna Howard Shaw led the suffrage effort. In 1910, at her request, prominent New York men formed a supportive Men’s League for Woman Suffrage.
- 1915**.....Carrie Chapman Catt returned as president of the NAWSA to conduct the final campaign for ratification.
- 1918**.....Oklahoma ratified the suffrage amendment.
- 1920**.....Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment. The U.S. Consitution was amended.
- 1916**.....Katharine Reed Balentine of Maine suggested the idea of a “League of Women Voters”.
- 1919**.....The LWV was proposed at the NAWSA Convention in St. Louis by Carrie Chapman Catt.
- 1920**.....The NAWSA was abolished at the Chicago Convention and replaced with a new organization: **League of Women Voters** (February 14, 1920).