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Wisconsin Women Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Right to Vote

State Was First to Ratify the 19th Amendment in 1919

MILWAUKEE, September 3, 2019 – Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women (WFRW) will host its Centennial Celebration of the Women's Right to Vote on Mon., Sept. 9, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. at the Wisconsin City Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee. Tickets for the event are \$50. To register to attend, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrating-100-years-of-votes-for-women-tickets-64744042173>

The Honorable Rebecca Kleefisch, now the Executive Director of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, will serve as the keynote speaker. The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission was formed by an act of the United States Congress to lead the planning for the 100th anniversary of women. WFRW expects more than 200 women to attend the Milwaukee event celebrating this milestone in our nation's history.

"The right to vote is something that many American women take for granted," said Rebecca Kleefisch, the Executive Director of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission and formerly Lt. Governor of Wisconsin. "Because it happened so long ago, it can be easy to forget the generations of brave women struggled for many decades to win suffrage for women nationally". The event on September 9th will celebrate this fight, which is one of the largest reform movement in American history."

Former Lt. Governor Margaret Farrow will also speak at the event. Cate Zueske will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. Zueske was Secretary of Revenue during the Thompson Administration and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Administration during the Wisconsin Governor Walker Administration. She also served as a State Representative. Others with a role in the evening's program include: National Committee Woman Mary Buestrin, former First Lady Tonette Walker, President of the WFRW Robin Moore and Jane Johnson, wife of Senator Ron Johnson.

Other organizations supporting the event include: Republican Women of Greater Milwaukee, Republican Women of Waukesha County, Republican Women of Washington County, Republican Women of South Eastern Wisconsin and Wisconsin Suburban Republican Women.

About Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women

The Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women's mission is to promote the Republican Party and its principles and candidates in all elections. WFRW strives to promote an informed electorate through political education.

For more information or questions about the event, contact Patty Reiman at (414) 430-5603 or email ppieks2@gmail.com

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Women's Suffrage Fact Sheet

- Suffragists began their original fight for women's suffrage (meaning the "right to vote") in 1848 during the first women's rights convention in Seneca, NY.
- The first state granting women the right to vote was controlled by the Republican -- Wyoming in 1869.
- The first woman elected to US Congress was a Republican from Montana in 1916.
- The first woman elected to both the US Congress and US Senate was a Republican, Hon. Margaret Chase from Maine
- The 19th Suffrage Amendment to grant women the right to vote was passed in Congress after the Republicans took control of the Congress in 1918.
- On June 10, 1919, Wisconsin became first state to ratify the 19th Amendment when the Republican party, which controlled both houses of the Wisconsin State Legislature, passed the resolution. On June 13, 1919, Wisconsin Senator David James of Richland Center filed the state's ratification document in Washington, D.C.