Arkansas Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Ratifying the 19th Amendment Giving Women Voting Rights

July 28 marks the 100th anniversary of Arkansas ratifying the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. We welcome the opportunity for you to talk with members of the federal commission tasked with coordinating the nation’s commemoration activities. Our commissioners can also talk about the important role Arkansas played in the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

The commission includes 14 dynamic leaders spanning a diverse professional and ideological landscape.


Chairwoman Kay Coles James - President, The Heritage Foundation
Kay Coles James is President of The Heritage Foundation where she has served on the board of trustees for 13 years. Mrs. James' commitment to the principles of free enterprise and individual freedom are evidenced in her career of public service that spans three decades. She has served as director of the Office of Personnel Management, Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Services and Dean of the Robertson School of Government at Regent University.

Vice Chairwoman Former Senator Barbara Mikulski
Former Senator Barbara Mikulski's political career spans over four decades. She proudly served the people of Maryland in the U.S. Congress for forty years, becoming the longest-serving woman in U.S. Congressional history in the process. Her first elected office was to the City Council of Baltimore in 1971. She then served in the U.S. House of Representatives for a decade prior to her election to the U.S. Senate in 1986, when she became the first Democratic woman elected to the U.S. Senate in her own right.

Jovita Carranza - Treasurer, United States of America
Susan Combs - Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, U.S. Department of the Interior
Marjorie Dannenfelser - President, Susan B. Anthony List
Heather Higgins - CEO, Independent Women's Voice
Karen Hill - President and CEO, Harriet Tubman Home
Julissa Marenco - Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs, Smithsonian
Nicola Miner - Philanthropist and Professor, College of San Mateo
Cleta Mitchell - Partner, Foley & Lardner LLP
Penny Nance - President, Concerned Women for America
Jennifer Siebel Newsom - Documentary Filmmaker and First Partner of California
Colleen J. Shogan - Assistant Deputy Librarian for Collections and Services Library of Congress
Debra Steidel Wall - Deputy Archivist, The National Archives
Rebecca Kleefisch - Executive Director, Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission