

**National Federation of Democratic Women
Resolution Advocating for Voter Rights**

WHEREAS, the National Federation of Democratic Women recognizes that a Democracy thrives when all citizens are engaged in the process and that the Right to Vote is sacred and integral to the progress of our society; and

WHEREAS, over the years, legislation has been enacted to guarantee voting rights. The Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965, which made disenfranchisement and voting qualification illegal. In 1970, Congress extended renewable portions of this Act and added amendments to ban literacy tests, reduce residency requirements and reduce the voting age in national elections from 21 to age 18. In 1975, amendments were added to require jurisdictions with significant numbers of voters with no English proficiency to provide voting materials and assistance in relevant languages other than English. In 2006, Voting Rights were extended.

WHEREAS, although laws have been enacted to protect the fundamental right to vote, voter suppression remains widespread. NFDW is opposed to these deliberate attempts to suppress voters, including gerrymandering, which favors one political party over another party, and closing polling places in targeted locations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NFDW opposes any changes that make it harder for any voters to cast ballots the organization supports the employment of government resources to protect the electoral process, advocating for all enhancements that will increase voter participation.

Submitted by the NFDW Legislative Committee May **2018**

Adopted by the NFDW Membership at the 48th Annual Convention on June 15, 2019