

**PROCLAMATION**  
*Office of the Mayor*  
*Town of Hamden*  
**WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY**  
**AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, The right to vote was not originally afforded to women. The first Women's Rights Convention was held in 1848 in Seneca Falls, New York, launching the Women's Suffrage Movement; and,

**WHEREAS**, Following decades of determined action by suffragists to ensure that women across the United States were able to exercise their rights in shaping the future of our society through the ballot, on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1920, the United States Government fully ratified and adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, giving women the ability to vote and partake in our democracy; and,

**WHEREAS**, Many women of color who helped lead the suffrage movement were still denied the right to vote. Native American women gained their right to vote in 1924; Chinese American women in 1943; Japanese and other Asian American women in 1952; and African American women in 1965, with the passage of the Voting Rights Act, 45 years after the ratification and adoption of the 19th Amendment; and,

**WHEREAS**, Women are significant contributors to society, having become leaders and inspiring future generations with their intelligence, commitment to progress, and ability to challenge and shape societal constructs. Women have risen to prominent positions and broken down barriers, be it from the Supreme Court all the way to local offices held in the Town of Hamden; and,


**WHEREAS**, The Town would like to recognize former Mayors Lillian Dudkiewicz-Clayman and Barbara DeNicola for their dedication to political service and ability to open the door for the many women who follow in their footsteps in governing our Town. Today, we celebrate the passion and unwavering dedication of the women who struggled and persevered in the fight for suffrage, and we recognize the countless ways that women strengthen the fabric of the Nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, The hard-fought accomplishments of women and activists have strengthened our economy, our communities, and our families. Their resolve, innovation, leadership, passion, and compassion have changed the world, and continue to inspire future generations of women and activists; and,

**WHEREAS**, We recognize that the work must continue to ensure all citizens are treated fairly and have equal opportunities. We must continue to build on progress towards equality and protecting the rights that generations of women and activists have fought for and continue to defend; and,

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Lauren Garrett, Mayor of the Town of Hamden, do hereby proclaim August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as Women's Equality Day in the Town of Hamden. I reaffirm our commitment to equality, and I urge all citizens to reflect upon the significance of this day, and to continue efforts towards full equality for all citizens.



  
**Lauren Garrett, Mayor**