



ERIN MENDENHALL  
*Mayor*

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Women's Equality Day is observed on August 26, the date the Nineteenth Amendment was certified (1919), guaranteeing women the right to vote in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wyoming Territory was first in the nation to extend voting rights to women in December 1869; however, the Utah Territory was the first to cast ballots, with Seraph Young, a Utah schoolteacher, being the first woman to vote during a municipal election on February 14, 1870; and

**WHEREAS**, women represented in every state, cultural, ethnic, and religious group worked tirelessly to secure women's right to vote, and

**WHEREAS**, despite the efforts and outcome of those groundbreaking activists, women continue the work to gain full rights and privileges – public or private, legal, or institutional – as citizens of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, when evaluating workplace environment, education, health and political empowerment, Utah has been named the worst state for women's equality for the fourth year in a row; and

**WHEREAS**, Utah's female representation in the state legislature has ranked in the bottom half of the United States since 1977, and, currently, women make up 24% of the 104-member legislative body; and

**WHEREAS**, since at least 1989, Utah has had one of the broadest gender wage gaps in the nation, with women earning 70.2% of what men make and women of color earning even less - notably Black women who earn 52.6% of white men's pay; and

**WHEREAS**, to both honor the accomplishments and build upon the work of the Women's Equality Day activists, Salt Lake City will continue to push for greater citywide equity, promote a culture that values and supports women in the workplace, and collaborate on future legislation designed to narrow the wage gap, create more accessible and affordable childcare, and incentivize businesses to reexamine diversity ratios and inequalities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, proclaim August 26, 2021, as:

***Women's Equality Day in Salt Lake City***



ERIN MENDENHALL  
*Mayor*

**PROCLAMATION**

*August 26, 2021*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Mendenhall", is written over a horizontal line.

*Erin Mendenhall*  
*Mayor*