On June 16, 1919, Ohio voted to ratify the 19th Amendment, becoming the sixth state to do so. After 36 states had ratified, it was officially adopted to the Constitution on August 26, 1920. Many Ohio women were at the forefront of the local, state, and national scene for the long fight for the vote and full citizenship. The amendment’s passage did not guarantee that all women could vote. Black, American Indian, Asian, and Hispanic women played a vital role in continuing to advocate for their own right to vote, which would not be granted until decades later.

Jewellia Ann Gatewood Higgins (large photo) was a suffragist, civil rights activist, community leader, and one of the first Black Red Cross Nurses in Dayton, Ohio. During the 1912 Ohio campaign for the Suffrage Amendment, she and other Black suffragists worked alongside the white members of the Dayton Woman Suffrage Association. Community Archives of Patricia Smith Griffis.

Harriet Taylor Upton (top right), president of the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association, with Carrie Chapman Catt in a parade. Frances Jennings Casement Papers, on deposit to the Ohio History Connection from the Ohioana Library.

Suffragists at Ohio Statehouse (bottom right). Ohio History Connection.

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