



Title: Building Democracy: The Story of Legislatures - Women's Suffrage

Description:

Welcome to Our American States. This is the fourth episode of a special 6-part mini series from the National Conference of State Legislatures called Building Democracy: The Story of Legislatures. Women have always played a pivotal role in American history, but their rights to vote had to be earned and fought for. This episode takes us back to the 1800s where the Women's Suffrage Movement first began.

Key Takeaways:

- Women gather for the first ever women's rights convention in July 1848. [0:10]
- Lawmakers entertain the idea of a bill granting women's right to vote and hold office in 1869. [5:45]
- The road to universal women's suffrage was not only long, but also split by racial tensions. [7:25]
- Women's voting rights and the right for religious freedom become interconnected in Utah. [13:25]
- Women's suffrage didn't have the effect congress had wished. [16:25]
- The first female state senator in the nation becomes elected. [19:50]
- Colorado initially wanted women's enfranchisement included in their state constitution, but thought it'll endanger congressional approval and negatively impact Colorado's chances of becoming a state. [21:50]
- America switches from silver to the gold standard. An economic crisis ensues. Women threaten they can clean up the 'corrupt politicians'. [23:20]
- Today, women make up roughly 30 percent of the representation in state legislatures. [28:10]
- By March 1920, 35 states had ratified the 19th Amendment, but they still needed one more state to ratify the proposed change.[30:00]
- The story of women's suffrage in America does not start or end with the 19th Amendment. [34:00]

Guest List:

[Affie Ellis](#) - Wyoming State Senator

[Donna Wilson](#) - NCSL's Program Director

[Rebekah Clark](#) - Better Days 2020 Historian

[Meg Froelich](#) - Colorado Representative

Resources:

[TN Woman 100](#)

[Bonus interview with scholars Lori Lahlum and Molly Rozum](#)

[Elizabeth Cady Stanton](#)

[Declaration of Sentiments](#)

[Women's suffrage movement.](#)

[William Bright./ Julia Bright](#)

[Esther Hobart Morris](#)

[The National Woman Suffrage Association](#)

[Susan B. Anthony](#)

[American Woman Suffrage Association](#)

[National American Woman Suffrage Association](#)

[National Association of Colored Women.](#)

[Voting Rights Act.](#)

[Louisa Swaine of Laramie](#)

[Great Indignation Meeting](#)

[Emmeline B. Wells](#)

[The Edmunds Tucker Act](#)

[Franklin F. Richards](#)

[Martha Hughes Cannon](#)

[Angus M Cannon](#)

[Progressive Movement](#)

[Women's Christian Temperance Union](#)

[Dr. Mattie Coleman.](#)

[Juno Frankie Pierce](#)

[Tennessee Governor Albert Roberts](#)

[Representative Harry Burn](#)