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19th Amendment for Women's Suffrage: A Document Analysis Activity
Studying legislation can be very beneficial in a Social Studies course. Legislation is defined as a law, and in the United States, these laws are created by Congress. These Acts or Resolutions of Congress can also be created as amendments to our Constitution, amending the structure and basic premise of our democratic government. While some legislation is created to address changes in the times or in response to economic or military advancements, most are enacted as a result of social action, sometimes protest, by the American people.

<p>House Calendar No. 1. H. J. RES. 1. (House No. 1.) IN SENATE, MAY 20, 1919. AT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 20, 1919. A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to extend the right of suffrage to women. JOINT RESOLUTION Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to extend the right of suffrage to women.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 2. At the First Day of Session of Congress assembled in regular or extra Session, to be held in the City of Washington, D.C., on the 20th day of May, 1919. 3. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 4. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 5. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 6. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 7. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 8. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 9. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 10. Passed by the House and then by the Senate. 	<p>House Joint Resolution In the House of Representatives, May 13, 1919. Mr. Mann introduced the following joint resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage and ordered to be printed. May 20, 1919. Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed. Joint Resolution Proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States. "Article _____ "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on the account of sex. "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."</p>
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Questions for Analysis:

1. On what day was this legislation enacted by Congress?
2. Who created this Joint Resolution?
3. What is the purpose of this resolution?
4. What additional power is guaranteed in this resolution?
5. Why was this legislation originally proposed?
6. Why is this legislation significant in current times?

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FACT: The Women's Suffrage Movement started long before this legislation, but gained momentum at the Seneca Falls Convention with the Declaration of Rights of Women written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

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<p style="text-align: center;">House Calendar No. 1.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">66TH CONGRESS, 1ST Session, H. J. RES. 1.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Report No. 1.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 19, 1919.</p> <p>Mr. MANN introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage and ordered to be printed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MAY 20, 1919.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JOINT RESOLUTION</p> <p>Proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women.</p> <p>1 Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives 2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled 3 (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the 4 following article is proposed as an amendment to the Con- 5 stitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as 6 part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of 7 three-fourths of the several States.</p> <p>8 "ARTICLE -----,</p> <p>9 "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall 10 not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any 11 State on account of sex.</p> <p>12 "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by 13 appropriate legislation."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">House Joint Resolution</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In the House of Representatives. May 19, 1919.</p> <p>Mr. Mann introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage and ordered to be printed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 20, 1919.</p> <p>Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joint Resolution</p> <p>Proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women.</p> <p>Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Article -----.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on the account of sex.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."</p>
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Questions for Analysis:

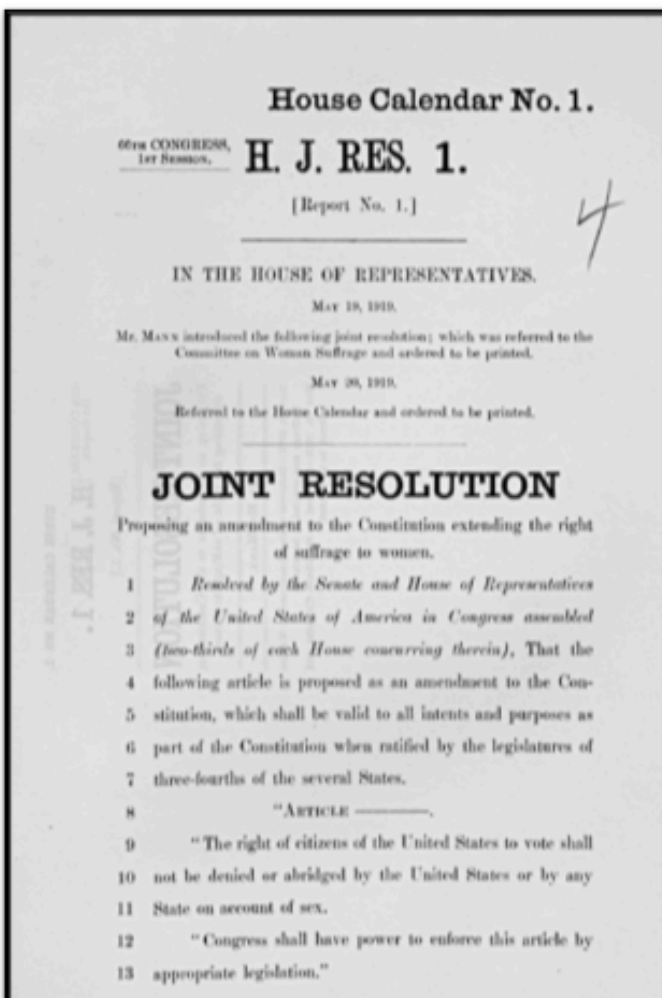
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FACT: The Women's Suffrage Movement started long before this legislation, but gained momentum at the Seneca Falls Convention with the *Declaration of Rights of Women* written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

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Questions for Analysis:

1. On what day was this legislation enacted by Congress?

May 19, 1919

2. Who created this Joint Resolution?

Both houses of Congress (from House of Representatives)

3. What is the purpose of this resolution?

To protect women's right to vote.

4. What additional power is guaranteed in this resolution?

Congress can enforce the right through legislation.

5. Why was this legislation originally proposed?

Women had been denied the right to vote.

6. Why is this legislation significant in current times?

Women have the protected right to vote in all elections, including on issues that matter to them.

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