

What Happened in Washington?

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The fight for women's right to vote in Washington took 50 years. Women fought for this right in Washington two times.

Washington women got the right to vote in the 1883. But in 1887, the Washington Territorial Supreme Court blocked that right. On year later, Washington lawmakers tried to pass a law letting women vote. But the court stopped that law, which meant that women still couldn't vote.

Still, women kept fighting. They also worked with other groups, like farmers, to get rights for people who were less powerful.

Finally, women got the right to vote in Washington in 1910. Washington was the fifth state in the country where women could vote.

But some women still could not vote in Washington. Most Native American women, some Asian women, and women who could not read English could not vote.

Washington women helped inspire women around the United States. In 1920, women around the country won the right to vote.



Washington State History Museum Suffrage Curriculum
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Footer images, left to right: "Woman forever march," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: 2010.151.4; "Woman's suffrage pin," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: C2008.0.132; "Votes for women: official organ of Washington Equal Suffrage Association," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number 2000.104.38.14