

# THE CONSTITUTION

OR  
FORM OF GOVERNMENT

AGREED TO, AND RESOLVED

BY THE  
REPRESENTATIVES of the FREE

OF THE  
S T A T E

OF  
NORTH-CAROLINA

ELECTED and CHOSEN for that particular

IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AT LENOIR

The Eighteenth Day of December, in the Year  
One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy

PHILADELPHIA:

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M.DCC.LXXIX.



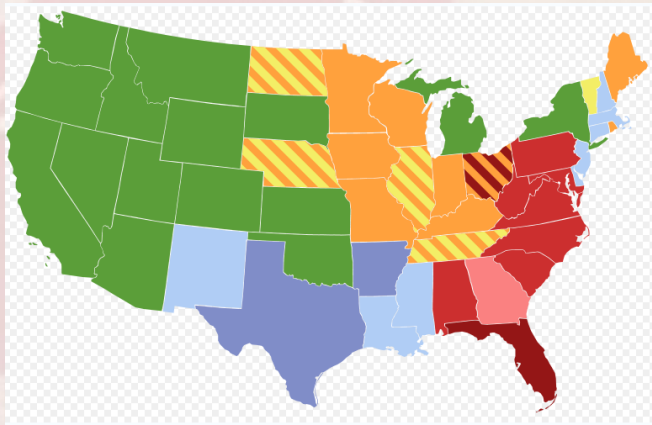
# Women & the North Carolina Constitution

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# 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Amendments

- 14<sup>th</sup> – Passed post civil war
  - Due Process of Law
  - Equal Protection of Law
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Passed post women's suffrage movement. Allowed women to vote.
  - Prior to law, NC women did not have the right to vote.



*Harriet Jacobs was an African American woman who escaped slavery to write an autobiography about her experience as a slave. Her work influenced others to end the practice of slavery in the United States.*

No Suffrage  
Full Suffrage  
Presidential Suffrage



# The North Carolina Constitution

- **Article I, Section 1**
  - Life, liberty, happiness
- **Article I, Section 19**
  - Equal protection
- **Article I, Section 26**
  - Jury Duty and Women
- **Article X, Section 4**
  - Women's Property Rights
- However, many of the items took a while to be provided:
  - **Article IX, Sec. 9**
    - *Provide higher education for free or cheaply as possible.*
- Women didn't receive higher education until 1877.
  - Funds for black and white teachers to be trained
  - In 1887, appropriated for Native Americans



MRS. CORNELIA PHILLIPS SPENCER

Cornelia Phillips Spencer was the first woman in UNC history to receive an honorary degree. Shaped the direction of UNC, advising men on the direction. [She was also a white supremacist.](#) The first female graduate was in 1898.



# Some Areas to Address

- Article II, Sec. 6
- Article II, Sec. 5
- Article III, Sec. 2 (2)
- What do they have in common?
- What is the meaning of “men?”





# Famous Moments in NC History

## 1774 – Edenton Tea Party

- 51 women protesting the Tea Act passed by Great Britain.
- Not taken seriously in Britain because it was “organized by women.”



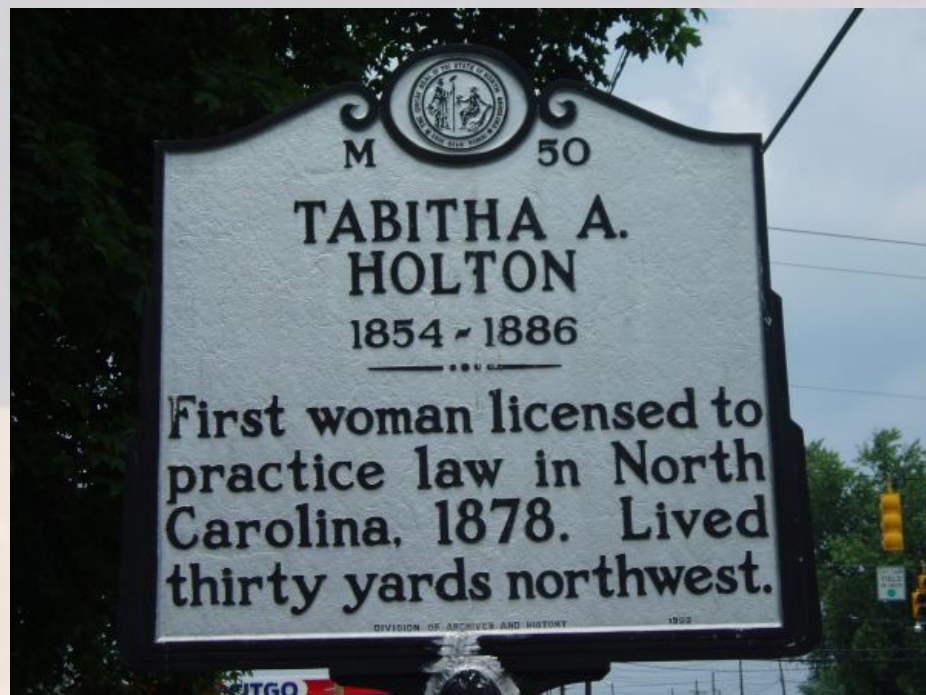


# 1878 – Tabitha Holton

- Tabitha Holton became the first female lawyer in 1878.

- Annie Alexander became the first female physician in 1887.

- Sallie Stockard became the first female to graduate from UNC in 1898.





# 1919 – *Kirkpatrick V. Crutchfield*

- Interesting case that defines the property rights of married women in North Carolina.
- Came one year before women's suffrage.
- Why would property rights be denied to women?
- Why would women not be allowed to sue?



# 1920 – First Female Rep/Suffrage

- Lillian Exum Clement became the first NC Representative.
- The League of Women Voters distributed pamphlets to get women to vote





# Susie Sharp

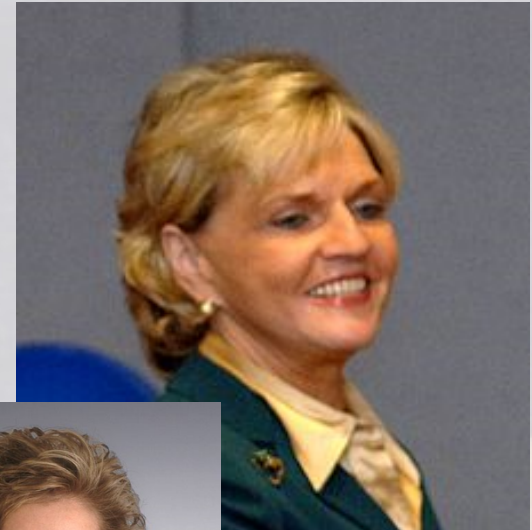
- 1949 – Governor Kerr Scott Appoints Sharp to be the first female superior court judge in NC.
- 1962 – Becomes the first female Associate Justice of the NC Supreme Court.
- 1974 – Becomes the first female Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court.





# Some Other Recent Firsts

- 2000 – Bev Perdue becomes the first female Lt. Governor of NC
- 2002 – Elizabeth Dole becomes NC's first female US Senator
- 2008 – Bev Perdue becomes the first female Governor of NC
- 2008 – Kay Hagan defeats Dole to become a US Senator





# Twelve Reasons Why Women Should Vote

1. BECAUSE those who obey the laws should help to choose those who make the laws.
2. BECAUSE laws affect women as much as men.
3. BECAUSE laws which affect WOMEN are now passed without consulting them.
4. BECAUSE laws affecting CHILDREN should include the woman's point of view as well as the man's.
5. BECAUSE laws affecting the HOME are voted on in every session of the Legislature.
6. BECAUSE women have experience which would be helpful to legislation.
7. BECAUSE to deprive women of the vote is to lower their position in common estimation.
8. BECAUSE having the vote would increase the sense of responsibility among women toward questions of public importance.
9. BECAUSE public spirited mothers make public spirited sons.
10. BECAUSE about 8,000,000 women in the United States are wage workers, and the conditions under which they work are controlled by law.
11. BECAUSE the objections against their having the vote are based on prejudice, not on reason.
12. BECAUSE to sum up all reasons in one—IT IS FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL.

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Equal Suffrage Association of North Carolina