



“The right of women to personal representation through the ballot seems to me unassailable wherever the right of man is conceded and exercised. I can conceive of no

possible abstract justification for the exclusion of the one and the inclusion of the other.”

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, suffragist, social reformer and co-author of “History of Women’s Suffrage,” quote from her statement before the U.S. Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage on April 2, 1888

In the 1875 case of *Minor v Happersett*, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that despite the privileges and immunities clause, a state can prohibit a woman from voting. It’s no coincidence that Elizabeth Cady Stanton, continuing to fight for women’s suffrage, chose to parrot these words in her 1888 address to the U.S. Senate stating, “... the national Constitution should be so interpreted or amended as to secure to the women of the nation all the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizens.”

Look for modern examples of individuals addressing members of Congress to bring awareness about their cause to our legislators. What topics are they concerned about? Select one. Research that topic and track how long people have been working to fight for changes in the law.

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