



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a business owner, writer, women’s suffragist, and a champion of human rights, the life of Jessie Daniel Ames was one of a Woman on a Mission; and

WHEREAS Jessie Daniel Ames helped her mother run their Georgetown Telephone Exchange Company; and

WHEREAS, she took on the issue of voting rights for women by organizing the Georgetown Equal Suffrage League and became its first president, while writing a weekly “Woman Suffrage Notes” column for the *Williamson County Sun*; and

WHEREAS, in 1918, as Treasurer of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association, Jessie Daniel Ames not only helped make the Great State of Texas the first southern state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment giving women the right to vote, but she and others led nearly 4,000 women from all over Williamson County to register to vote in the 17 days before the deadline; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Equal Suffrage Association reorganized as the Texas League of Women Voters in 1919, and she served as its first president until 1924; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Daniel Ames wasn’t just content with attaining the right to vote for women, she became the director of the Texas and Southwest Area for the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, after moving to Atlanta in 1929, she formed the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching and was its Director until 1942;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court declare that the 139th anniversary of her birth on November 2, 2022, be proclaimed Jessie Daniel Ames Day in Williamson County to honor the impact her work has been on women’s voting rights and on human rights overall.

Passed by Commissioners Court and Signed on this date: _____

Bill Gravell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Members