

A.A. (Andrieus Aristieus) Jones

The leading women suffragists of the early 20th century who left a legacy for New Mexico had a powerful male ally: U.S. Senator Andrieus A. Jones, a Tennessee native who was born in Tennessee and became an educator. He moved to Las Vegas, New Mexico in 1885 and served as head of schools in that city from 1885 to 1887. He was mayor of Las Vegas from 1893-94 before being elected to the U. S. Senate in 2016. When he arrived in D. C. he was appointed chairman of the Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage.¹

Suffrage leaders Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton drafted the 19th Amendment in 1878, and it was introduced into the U. S. Legislature that same year.²

Jones exhibited a personal commitment to woman's suffrage when he visited suffrage advocates who had been jailed at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, Virginia, for picketing the White House in 1917.³

The women of the National American Woman Suffrage Association appreciated his efforts, and several wrote and told him so.⁴

In the fall of 1918, a deputation of four women, Annie Fraher, Bertha Moller, Berthe Arnold, Anita Pollitzer, departed from the National Women's Party headquarters to take a petition to Senator Jones, chair of Senate Woman Suffrage Committee.⁵

Between January 1918 and June 1919, the House and Senate voted on the federal amendment five times.⁶ Each vote was extremely close and **Southern Democrats** continued to oppose giving women the vote. Suffragists pressured President Wilson to call a special session of Congress and he agreed to schedule one for May 19, 1919.

• ¹ https://www.senate.gov/senators/FeaturedBios/Featured_Bio_Jones.htm

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³ Jensen, Joan, " 'Disenfranchisement is a Disgrace,' Women and Politics in New Mexico, 1900-1940," appearing in Jensen, Joan M. and Darlis M. Miller, editors. *New Mexico Women, Intercultural Perspectives*, (Albuquerque: UNM Press), 1984. P 314) Korgen, Wilson. "The Lasting Legacy of Suffragists at the Lorton Women's Workhouse." *Smithsonian Folklife Magazine*, March 21, 2018. <https://folklife.si.edu/magazine/lasting-legacy-of-suffragists-at-lorton-occoquan-womens-workhouse>

⁴ A. A. Jones Family Papers, 1865-1942 Archival material. Fray Angelico Chavez Library, Museum of New Mexico. Letter from Illinois Equal Suffrage Association to "My Dear Senator Jones" signed Grace Wilbur Trout, state president. "You were one of those true friends and I shall never forget your unselfish and untiring efforts on behalf of our movement."

Letter from NAWSA to "Dear Senator Jones" signed Carrie Chapman Catt, president. "The NAWSA wishes to express the deepest appreciation of the consideration, patience, and courage which has so characterized your every movement in our difficult campaign.")

⁵ Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C. *Deputation Leaving Headquarters to Take Petition to Senator Jones of New Mexico Annie Fraher, Bertha Moller, Berthe Arnold, Anita Pollitzer*. Sept. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/mnwp000349/>. **Title**

Deputation Leaving Headquarters to Take Petition to Senator Jones of New Mexico [Annie Fraher, Bertha Moller, Berthe Arnold, Anita Pollitzer].

Women of Protest: Photographs from the Records of the National Woman's Party, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

⁶ *"The House's 1918 Passage of a Constitutional Amendment Granting Women the Right to Vote | US House of Representatives: History, Art & Archives"*. history.house.gov. Retrieved May 28, 2019.

On May 21, 1919, the amendment passed the House 304 to 89, with 42 votes more than was necessary.⁷ Forty-one years later, on June 4, 1919, it was brought before the Senate and, after Southern Democrats abandoned a [filibuster](#), 36 Republican Senators were joined by 20 Democrats to pass the amendment with 56 yeas, 25 nays, and 14 not voting. The final vote tally was:^[54]

on June 4, 1919, Congress approved the women's suffrage amendment and sent it to the states for ratification. The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted women the right to vote and was ratified by the states on August 18, 1920.

The chairman of the Suffrage Committee, Senator A. A. Jones of New Mexico, had changed his vote, on October 1, 1917 from yes to no, in order to move a reconsideration, so that the way was clear for another chance with the Sixty-fifth Congress, still in session. However, this was not to happen. (Women's Suffrage: The Congress of the United States Surrender by Carrie Chapman Catt and Nettie Rogers Shuler)

When Jones died in 1927, his fellow New Mexican Senator, Sam Bratton, in his memorial address to the Senate, emphasized the important work Jones did to move the Nineteenth Amendment forward. (*Congressional Record*, April 8, 1928, pg 6054

“He distinguished himself in his advocacy of the Nineteenth Amendment. No man in the entire republic is due more credit for bringing about the enactment of the Woman Suffrage Amendment than is Senator Jones.” New Mexico Senator, Sam Bratton)

His headstone at his burial site simply says “Andrieus A. Jones, A senator of the United States, 1862 – 1927.

⁷ Cooney, Jr., Robert P. J. (2005). *Winning the Vote: the Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement*. Santa Cruz, CA: American Graphic Press. pp. 408–427. [ISBN 978-0977009503](#).