

State of the State Message of Governor Tasker L. Oddie. To the Legislature of 1913 (Twenty-Sixth Session)

Here is the text of a section of Governor Oddie's speech:

January 20, 1913

The Franchise for Women

In California, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Arizona—every Pacific Coast State except Nevada—the right of franchise is now granted women. Thus we are entirely surrounded by States which have marked their advance by giving women the same right to vote on public questions and for public officials as men. Two years ago our Legislature proposed an amendment removing the constitutional barrier which denies women this right in Nevada. This amendment will have to be favorably acted upon by your honorable bodies and finally submitted to a vote of the people before it can become a part of our organic law. The sentiment in its favor seems to be overwhelming and participated in by all political parties, for which reason, and from my own personal convictions of its justice, I recommend that your honorable bodies concur in the same by appropriate action.

In connection with the more equitable readjustment of the status of women before the law, I recommend that the statute which gives the father sole authority over the custody, services, earnings and management of the property of a minor child be amended by making both parents joint guardians thereof.