

HR 8011

2021

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing March 8, 2021, as
3 "International Women's Day" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is an annual celebration
6 of women's cultural, educational, economic, political, and
7 social accomplishments, and recognizes women's achievements
8 regardless of cultural, economic, ethnic, linguistic, national,
9 or political divisions, and

10 WHEREAS, on February 28, 1909, the first National Women's
11 Day was observed in the United States, and

12 WHEREAS, on June 26, 1945, the Charter of the United
13 Nations was signed, marking the first affirmation of equality
14 between women and men by international agreement, and

15 WHEREAS, the United Nations celebrated International
16 Women's Day for the first time on March 8, 1975, and two years
17 later, declared a day for international peace and women's rights
18 by resolution in the United Nations General Assembly, and

19 WHEREAS, every year, approximately 12 million girls
20 worldwide are married before they reach the age of 18, and

21 WHEREAS, according to the International Labor Organization,
22 71 percent of the estimated 40.3 million victims of modern
23 slavery in 2016 were women and girls, and

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24 WHEREAS, according to UNICEF, an estimated one out of three
25 women around the world has experienced some form of physical or
26 sexual violence, and

27 WHEREAS, in 2021, Kamala Harris became the first woman, the
28 first Black American, and the first person of South Asian
29 descent to serve as Vice President of the United States, and

30 WHEREAS, women also occupy statewide leadership positions
31 including Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and
32 Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and

33 WHEREAS, currently, 34 percent of the members of the
34 Florida Legislature are women, including 40 representatives and
35 15 senators, and

36 WHEREAS, in continuing the tradition of honoring Florida
37 women, Doris Mae Barnes, Dr. Judith Ann Bense, and Mildred
38 Wilborn Gildersleeve were added to the Florida Women's Hall of
39 Fame for making significant contributions in the life of women
40 and residents of Florida, and

41 WHEREAS, women, particularly women of color, are more
42 likely to work in businesses deemed "essential" and are being
43 disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and

44 WHEREAS, women comprise more than two-thirds of the health
45 care workforce in the United States, as well as 78 percent of
46 the social workers, 53 percent of essential retail workers, and
47 34 percent of delivery and warehouse employees, putting women in
48 the front lines of the pandemic, and

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49 WHEREAS, the year 2020 marked the 100th anniversary of the
50 ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States
51 Constitution, which guaranteed and protected women's
52 constitutional right to vote, and

53 WHEREAS, the theme of International Women's Day 2021 is
54 "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19
55 world," NOW, THEREFORE,

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57 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
58 Florida:

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60 That March 8, 2021, is recognized as "International Women's
61 Day" in Florida and residents of the state are encouraged to
62 celebrate the day by honoring the achievements and
63 accomplishments of women.