



Introduced Version

---

---

**HOUSE  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

---

*Introduced by: Boy, Errington, Campbell*

---

---

1           A HOUSE RESOLUTION celebrating International  
2 Women's Day and recognizing the role of women in history  
3 during women's history month.

4           *Whereas, The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S.*  
5 *Constitution was passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and was*  
6 *ratified by the states on August 18, 1920;*

7           *Whereas, A U.S. Supreme Court decision was needed to*  
8 *ensure that women could vote throughout the country, and 99*  
9 *years ago, on February 27, 1922, the U.S. Supreme Court*  
10 *upheld the Nineteenth Amendment, guaranteeing that the right*  
11 *to vote could not be denied based on sex. Leser v. Garnett*  
12 *ensured that, no matter what any state constitution said, women*  
13 *could vote;*

14           *Whereas, American women were leaders in securing their*

20212689



1 *own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but were also*  
2 *leaders in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation*  
3 *movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights*  
4 *movement, and the peace movement, helping to create a fairer*  
5 *and more just society for all;*

6 *Whereas, 88 percent of women in the United States between*  
7 *the ages of 25 and 29 have obtained a high school diploma and*  
8 *31 percent of that same population has earned at least one*  
9 *bachelor degree, outpacing men in the same age group*  
10 *according to the U.S. Department of Education, National*  
11 *Center for Education Statistics;*

12 *Whereas, Women stand at the front lines of the COVID-19*  
13 *crisis, as health care workers, caregivers, innovators, and*  
14 *community organizers, and as some of the most exemplary and*  
15 *effective national leaders in combating the pandemic, and*  
16 *should be recognized for their essential contributions;*

17 *Whereas, The International Women's Day theme for 2021 is*  
18 *#ChooseToChallenge;*

19 *Whereas, UN Women, a United Nations entity dedicated to*  
20 *gender equality and the empowerment of women, chose a*  
21 *related theme for International Women's Day in 2021: "Women*  
22 *in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19*  
23 *world";*

24 *Whereas, Both entities celebrate the tremendous efforts by*  
25 *women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal*  
26 *future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;*

27 *Whereas, Women are heads of state and government in only*  
28 *20 countries worldwide even though many notable women*  
29 *leaders have been recognized as the common factor by Forbes*  
30 *magazine for a country's success at stemming the tide of the*  
31 *COVID-19 pandemic, and for their response to the pandemic's*  
32 *health and broader socioeconomic impacts;*

33 *Whereas, The House of Representatives celebrates the*  
34 *history of women and recognizes the achievement of all, with*  
35 *special acknowledgment of Indiana women, six of whom are*



1 *included below;*

2 *Whereas, Marie Curie was born in 1867 and founded the*  
3 *science of radioactivity, which led to the discovery of various*  
4 *cures for cancer. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize,*  
5 *the first female professor at the University of Paris, and the*  
6 *first person to win a second Nobel Prize;*

7 *Whereas, Rosa Parks challenged the racial segregation that*  
8 *existed in many parts of the country by refusing to give up her*  
9 *seat on a bus to a white man. The United States Congress has*  
10 *called her "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the*  
11 *freedom movement";*

12 *Whereas, Amelia Earhart became the first female pilot to*  
13 *cross the Atlantic Ocean during a solo flight. She spent five*  
14 *years beating speed and flying records, and was subsequently*  
15 *declared missing after making an attempt to fly solo over the*  
16 *Pacific Ocean;*

17 *Whereas, Grace Hopper was the first woman to earn a Ph.D.*  
18 *in math from Yale University in 1934 and became a*  
19 *revolutionary figure in the world of computer science. She*  
20 *spent the majority of her life serving her country as part of the*  
21 *U.S. Navy and is credited with visionary work on early*  
22 *computer systems that led to COBOL, a commercial*  
23 *programming language that revolutionized how businesses*  
24 *operate around the world;*

25 *Whereas, Bessie Coleman was the first woman to earn an*  
26 *international pilot's license in France but could only work as a*  
27 *stunt pilot in the United States due to racial and gender bias.*  
28 *She succeeded in building nationwide support to fund a pilot*  
29 *school that trained black aviators;*

30 *Whereas, Carrie Chapman Catt served as president of the*  
31 *National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)*  
32 *more than 100 years ago from 1900 to 1904. She served again*  
33 *from 1915 through the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment*  
34 *in 1920, 99 years ago;*

35 *Whereas, Alice Paul broke away from NAWSA and founded*



1 *the National Woman's Party (NWP). She organized parades*  
2 *and pickets of the White House starting in 1913 and joined*  
3 *1,000 "silent sentinels" in support of suffrage in January 1917.*  
4 *Paul and fellow suffragettes with banners picketed the White*  
5 *House gates over the course of the next 18 months;*

6 *Whereas, Dr. Alice Hamilton became the first and, for many*  
7 *years, the only woman on the Harvard faculty in 1918. While*  
8 *teaching pathology at Northwestern University, she came to*  
9 *know Jane Addams and other reformers who encouraged her to*  
10 *find a way to apply her scientific knowledge to social problems.*  
11 *Her pioneering research in the field of toxicology raised*  
12 *awareness about industrial hazards found in the workplace for*  
13 *many Americans;*

14 *Whereas, Dr. Mae Jemison was the first African American*  
15 *woman in space. She had previously served as an area Peace*  
16 *Corps medical officer and managed the health care systems for*  
17 *Sierra Leone and Liberia in West Africa. She was selected by*  
18 *NASA for the astronaut program in 1988 and was chosen as the*  
19 *science mission specialist for an eight-day mission on board the*  
20 *Endeavour in 1992, logging more than 190 hours in space;*

21 *Whereas, The late State Representative and State Senator*  
22 *Anita Bowser of Michigan City, Indiana, was the first woman*  
23 *to hold the role of deputy speaker pro tempore in the history of*  
24 *Indiana. She was a founding member of, and the first female*  
25 *teacher at, Purdue University North Central. Her priorities*  
26 *included education, economic development, health care, and*  
27 *the environment, and she was considered by some to be "the*  
28 *conscience of the Indiana State Senate";*

29 *Whereas, Sgt. Nora Werner is a Michigan City native and*  
30 *the first female Indiana State Police trooper to patrol the*  
31 *Indiana Toll Road. Sgt. Werner emphasized doing the right*  
32 *thing "no matter what" and served as a mentor and role model*  
33 *for many state troopers until her retirement in 2017 after*  
34 *serving for 34 years;*

35 *Whereas, Dorothy Journey was born in Michigan City in 1909*  
36 *and began her career at the Michigan City News, later*  
37 *becoming the women's editor at the Miami Herald, Detroit Free*



1 *Press, and Philadelphia Inquirer. She shifted the focus of*  
 2 *women's pages from society news to serious issues, such as the*  
 3 *women's movement, female political candidates, and women in*  
 4 *the workplace;*

5 *Whereas, Anita King was born in Michigan City in 1884 and*  
 6 *began her career in modeling and theater, learned to drive, and*  
 7 *competed in auto races in the early 1910s. She was the first*  
 8 *female driver to complete a solo trip across the United States,*  
 9 *reporting that her only companions were a rifle and a*  
 10 *six-shooter. She used her fame for charitable works, and helped*  
 11 *organize a recreation club for young girls trying to start a*  
 12 *career in the film industry;*

13 *Whereas, Mamie Davis, a Michigan City resident, served in*  
 14 *multiple volunteer positions throughout her life, and was a*  
 15 *member of the Dunes Country Quilters. She traveled and spoke*  
 16 *frequently about the importance of quilting in the slave era as*  
 17 *"roadmaps" for the Underground Railroad, and was*  
 18 *affectionately known as "The Quilt Lady";*

19 *Whereas, Harriet Colfax, who was the lighthouse keeper in*  
 20 *Michigan City, served from her appointment in 1861 until her*  
 21 *retirement at age 80 in 1904. She retained an impeccable*  
 22 *service record during her 43 years of rain, snow, and many*  
 23 *storms, never allowing the light to fail; and*

24 *Whereas, Recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments*  
 25 *of women in history may inspire future generations to work*  
 26 *toward equality for all Hoosiers: Therefore,*

27 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*  
 28 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

29 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
 30 recognizes the achievements of these and many other  
 31 remarkable and tenacious women who have led the way for  
 32 others; celebrates the social, economic, cultural, and political  
 33 achievements of women, because visibility and awareness help  
 34 drive positive change for women; recognizes and honors the  
 35 women in the United States and in other countries who have  
 36 fought and continue to struggle for gender equality and



1 women's rights; thanks the members of the Indiana Commission  
2 for Women and the individual Commissions for Women  
3 serving in several cities in Indiana for their efforts in support of  
4 women; and encourages women to run for elected office and  
5 apply to serve on boards and commissions.

6 SECTION 2. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
7 celebrates the month of March as Women's History Month and  
8 March 8, 2021, as International Women's Day in the state of  
9 Indiana.

