
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 701 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, COHEN, ROZZI, SIMS, VEREB, MILLARD, CORBIN, KIRKLAND, THOMAS, SANTARSIERO, DRISCOLL, BOBACK, KOTIK, O'BRIEN, MARSICO, DIGIROLAMO, BIZZARRO, CALTAGIRONE, MACKENZIE, SCHREIBER, KAVULICH, WATSON, DONATUCCI, TOOHL, GODSHALL, WHEELAND, KINSEY, LONGIETTI, DEAN, SCHWEYER, McNEILL, ROSS, PHILLIPS-HILL, CONKLIN, MURT, ROEBUCK, GOODMAN, YOUNGBLOOD, GROVE, READSHAW, PETRI, PAYNE, KIM, NEILSON, MAJOR, MAHONEY, PASHINSKI, D. COSTA, SCHLOSSBERG, BULLOCK, DAVIDSON, R. BROWN, BURNS, D. PARKER, P. COSTA, HARHAI, FRANKEL, PICKETT, ELLIS, HARHART, QUINN, MUSTIO, GINGRICH, SACCONI, KAUFER, STAATS, HAHN, KLUNK, SCHLEGEL CULVER, WARD, KORTZ, EVERETT, HEFFLEY AND BRADFORD,
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of March 2016 as "National Women's History
2 Month" and March 8, 2016, as "International Women's Day" in
3 Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Women of every race, class and ethnic background
5 have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of
6 the nation and the world in countless recorded and unrecorded
7 ways; and

8 WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a
9 critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of
10 the life of the nation by constituting a significant portion of
11 the labor force, working inside and outside the home; and

12 WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the

1 establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural
2 institutions in the nation; and

3 WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in
4 securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but
5 also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement,
6 the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and
7 other movements, especially the peace movement, each of which
8 created a more fair and just society for all; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite these contributions, the role of American
10 women in history has been consistently overlooked and
11 undervalued in the literature, teaching and study of American
12 and world history; and

13 WHEREAS, After the American Revolution, the notion of
14 education as a safeguard for democracy created opportunities for
15 girls to gain only a basic education; and

16 WHEREAS, Pioneers of secondary education for young women
17 faced arguments from physicians and others who claimed that
18 females were incapable of intellectual development equal to men
19 and that they would be harmed by striving for it; and

20 WHEREAS, The commitment of women to educational equality
21 throughout the entirety of academia has resulted in the
22 ascension of women in politics and government; and

23 WHEREAS, The National Women's History Project began with a
24 proclamation by President Jimmy Carter that declared the week of
25 March 8, 1980, as the first "National Women's History Week"; and

26 WHEREAS, This year, the theme for "National Women's History
27 Month" is "Working to Form a More Perfect Union," which honors
28 women who have strengthened our democracy through public service
29 and government leadership by championing human rights and by
30 ensuring access and equal opportunity for all Americans; and

1 WHEREAS, Against social convention and often legal
2 restraints, women have created a legacy that expands the
3 frontiers of possibility for generations to come and have
4 demonstrated their character, courage and commitment as mothers,
5 educators, institution builders, relief workers, CEOs and
6 leaders in business, politics, religion and the community; and

7 WHEREAS, The lives of these women and their work inspire
8 girls and women to achieve their full potential and encourage
9 boys and men to respect the diversity and depth of women's
10 experience; and

11 WHEREAS, The first "International Women's Day" was held in
12 1911; and

13 WHEREAS, "International Women's Day" is now celebrated
14 annually on March 8; and

15 WHEREAS, On "International Women's Day," thousands of events
16 are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate the
17 social, political and economic achievements of women while
18 focusing world attention on areas requiring further action; and

19 WHEREAS, The 2016 theme of "International Women's Day" is
20 "Pledge for Parity," emphasizing the need for both men and women
21 to take concrete steps to advocate within their spheres of
22 influence pragmatic action to accelerate gender parity; and

23 WHEREAS, The vast array of communication channels, supportive
24 spokespeople, equality research, campaigns and corporate
25 responsibility initiatives means everyone can be an advocate
26 inspiring change for women's advancement; and

27 WHEREAS, Thousands of events occur to mark the economic,
28 political and social achievements of women as organizations,
29 governments, charities, educational institutions, women's
30 groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day; and

1 WHEREAS, "National Women's History Month" and "International
2 Women's Day" are ideal venues for all Pennsylvanians to reflect
3 and recognize women's struggle for equal educational rights and
4 to highlight the numerous contributions of women across this
5 Commonwealth and the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The recognition of March 2016 as "National Women's
7 History Month" and March 8, 2016, as "International Women's Day"
8 highlights the numerous contributions of women across this
9 Commonwealth and the nation who created a more fair and just
10 society for all people; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
12 month of March 2016 as "National Women's History Month" and
13 March 8, 2016, as "International Women's Day" in Pennsylvania
14 and invite the women, men and children of this Commonwealth to
15 explore the critical economic, cultural and social roles women
16 have played and continue to play in every sphere of life in this
17 Commonwealth and the nation.