

2020 -- H 7972

=====
LC005187
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2020, AS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN THE STATE
OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Donovan, Mattiello, Ajello, Ackerman, and Carson

Date Introduced: March 05, 2020

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900s, at a
2 time when women's oppression and inequality were causing women to become more vocal,
3 active, and demanding of change; and

4 WHEREAS, The first National Women's Day was observed in the United States on
5 February 28, 1909, where women protested and demanded shorter hours, better pay, and voting
6 rights; and

7 WHEREAS, The first countries to honor International Women's Day in 1911 were
8 Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland, with more than one million women and men
9 attending International Women's Day rallies, demanding women's rights including the right to
10 work, vote, to hold public office, and an end to discrimination in general; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1977, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed March 8th as
12 International Women's Day throughout the world, a day that is celebrated in the United States and
13 globally; and

14 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has grown exponentially, nationally and
15 internationally, in developed and developing countries alike; and

16 WHEREAS, The United Nations declared the 2020 theme for the International Women's
17 Day to be #EachForEqual, exalting the fact than an equal world is an enlightened world in which
18 gender inequality, pay inequality, sexual harassment and sexual violence will no longer be
19 tolerated in business, in boardrooms, in State Houses or the White House, and not even in

1 Hollywood; and

2 WHEREAS, In a world where gender parity and equality remain elusive, the world will
3 continue to see sweeping and revolutionary movements like #TimesUp and the #MeToo
4 Movements; and

5 WHEREAS, Although those statistics can be daunting and dim, there are nonetheless
6 numerous bright spots which we can now recognize and celebrate. Today, the Rhode Island
7 General Assembly recognizes International Women's Day 2020 by celebrating "Doctors of
8 Distinction," honoring seven Doctors of Distinction who, in particular, have changed the world
9 through their advocacy, care, passion and diligence. They are: Doctors Jody Underwood, Angela
10 Anderson, Maryellen Butke, Megan Ranney, Iris Tong, Lindsay Orchowski, and Carolina
11 Fonseca-Valencia; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
13 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes these seven prestigious, smart, elite and distinguished
14 women who have blazed educational trails and broken glass ceilings to land at the top of their
15 institutions. This House furthermore encourages all citizens to celebrate and pay tribute to the
16 contributions of these women, and all women, nationally and in the State of Rhode Island; and be
17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That this House hereby recognizes March 8, 2020, as "International
19 Women's Day" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the first woman Governor of the State of Rhode
22 Island, the Honorable Gina Raimondo.

=====
LC005187
=====