

2013 -- S 0701

=====
LC02025
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 8TH, 2013, AS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY"

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, P Fogarty, Goodwin, Paiva Weed, and Gallo

Date Introduced: March 07, 2013

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900's,
2 during a time of booming population growth, turbulence, expansion in the industrialized world,
3 and the rise of progressive ideologies; and

4 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is a day when women are recognized for their
5 achievements with respect to their national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic, and political
6 differences; and

7 WHEREAS, The first National Women's Day was observed in the United States on
8 February 28, 1909, by the Socialist Party of America. The Party designated that day as National
9 Women's Day in honor of the 1908 garment workers' strike in New York, where women
10 protested against the working conditions they had to endure; and

11 WHEREAS, International Women's Day was first observed in 1911, following the
12 second International Conference of Working Women that was held in Copenhagen, Denmark;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The first countries to honor International Women's Day were Austria,
15 Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland, at which time more than one million women and men
16 attended International Women's Day rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be
17 trained, hold public office, and end discrimination; and

18 WHEREAS, On March 25, 1911, a week after the initial celebration of this event and on
19 the heels of countless rallies campaigning for equal rights and tolerable and fair working
20 conditions for women, a disastrous event known as the "Triangle Shirtwaist Fire" in New York

1 City took the lives of more than 140 women, most of whom were Italian and Jewish immigrants;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, On the eve of World War I, International Women's Day became recognized
4 worldwide on March 8th, beginning in 1914. Since then, March 8th has remained the day on
5 which International Women's Day is celebrated; and

6 WHEREAS, Following those early years, International Women's Day has assumed a
7 new, global dimension for women in developed and developing countries alike; and

8 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is celebrated in many countries, including the
9 United States, Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Uganda, Ukraine,
10 Vietnam, Zambia, and a host of others, and in some countries, International Women's Day is the
11 equivalent to Mother's Day; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations is
13 honored to recognize March 8, 2013, as "International Women's Day." We encourage all citizens
14 of the state to celebrate and pay tribute to the contributions made by women of this and every
15 nation; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to send
17 a duly certified copy of this resolution to the U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

=====
LC02025
=====