



## 2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 118

March 22, 2018 - Introduced by Representatives ZAMARRIPA, C. TAYLOR, ANDERSON, BARCA, BERCEAU, BROSTOFF, CONSIDINE, CROWLEY, FIELDS, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, MEYERS, NEUBAUER, OHNSTAD, PETRYK, RIEMER, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SUBECK, VRUWINK, ZEPNICK and WACHS, cosponsored by Senators SCHACHTNER, L. TAYLOR, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, RINGHAND, RISSER and VINEHOUT. Referred to Committee on Rules.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming March 2018 as women's history month.

2             Whereas, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have  
3     made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our nation in countless  
4     recorded and unrecorded ways; and

5             Whereas, American women have played, and continue to play, a critical  
6     economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of life and constitute a significant  
7     portion of the labor force working inside and outside the home; and

8             Whereas, American women have played a unique role throughout the history  
9     of the nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force; and

10            Whereas, American women were particularly important in the establishment  
11    of early philanthropic and cultural institutions in our nation; and

12            Whereas, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own  
13    rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the  
14    emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement,

1 and the peace movement, all of which have created a fairer and more just society for  
2 all; and

3       Whereas, in 1925 not one but three women were the first female assemblymen  
4 to be elected to the Wisconsin legislature; and

5       Whereas, Assemblyman Mildred Barber, a Republican teacher, Assemblyman  
6 Helen Brooks, a Republican teacher, and Assemblyman Helen Thompson, a  
7 Republican teacher and hotel keeper, paved the way for other female leaders to hold  
8 legislative positions in Wisconsin; and

9       Whereas, Democrat Marcia P. Coggs was elected to the state assembly in 1977,  
10 becoming the first African American woman to serve in the assembly; and

11       Whereas, Democrat Gwen Moore, elected in 1992, became the first African  
12 American woman elected to the state senate; and

13       Whereas, in 2014 Representative Pat Strachota became the first woman to  
14 serve as assembly majority leader; and

15       Whereas, in 1985 Senator Susan Engeleiter became the first Republican  
16 woman to be senate minority leader, and she was the youngest woman ever elected  
17 to the Wisconsin legislature; and

18       Whereas, in 2003 Senator Mary Panzer became the first Republican woman to  
19 be senate majority leader, and in 2005 Senator Judith Robson became the first  
20 Democratic woman to be senate minority leader and in 2007 became the first  
21 Democratic woman to be senate majority leader, making them the highest ranking  
22 women legislators; and

23       Whereas, Margaret Farrow was the first Republican woman to be lieutenant  
24 governor and Barbara Lawton was the first Democratic woman to be lieutenant  
25 governor in Wisconsin's history; and

