A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of March 2020 as "National Women's History Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

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

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions in the nation; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Through their contributions to the abolitionist
movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor
movement, the civil rights movement and especially the peace
movement, American women have created a more fair and just
society for all; and

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

and

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

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

WHEREAS, Women's commitment to educational equality
throughout academia has resulted in their involvement and
ascension in politics and government; and

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

WHEREAS, This year, the theme for "National Women's History
Month," "Valiant Women of the Vote," honors "the brave women who
have fought to win suffrage rights for women, and for the women
who continue to fight for the voting rights of others"; and

WHEREAS, Against social conventions and legal constraints,
women have created a legacy that broadens the frontiers of
possibility for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Women have demonstrated their character, courage and
commitment as mothers, educators, institution builders, relief
workers, CEOs and leaders in business, politics, religion and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Women's lives and work inspire girls and women to achieve their full potential and encourage boys and men to respect the diversity and depth of women's experience; and

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

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

WHEREAS, "National Women's History Month" observances are ideal venues for all Pennsylvanians to reflect on women's struggle for equal educational rights and their significant contributions to this Commonwealth and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the month of March 2020 as "National Women's History Month" highlights the achievements of the women across this Commonwealth and the nation who have created a more fair and just society for all people; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the month of March 2020 as "National Women's History Month" in Pennsylvania and invite the women, men and children of this Commonwealth to explore the critical economic, cultural and social roles women have played and continue to play in every sphere of life in this Commonwealth and the nation.