
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 74 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, NEUMAN, WHEATLEY, FRANKEL, COHEN, KIRKLAND,
O'NEILL, C. PARKER, KOTIK, HENNESSEY, CORBIN, LONGIETTI,
TOEPEL, ACOSTA, KIM, V. BROWN, SCHLOSSBERG, DIGIROLAMO,
VEREB, GOODMAN, WATSON, DeLUCA, MILLARD, BISHOP, MACKENZIE,
FARINA, SANTARSIERO, O'BRIEN, HARHART, SCHWEYER, MARSICO,
STURLA, EVERETT, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, MURT, ROSS, READSHAW,
BROWNLEE, SABATINA, MAJOR, DONATUCCI, MAHONEY, McCARTER,
ROEBUCK, GIBBONS AND ROZZI, FEBRUARY 9, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 9, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 8, 2015, as "International Women's Day" and
2 the month of March 2015 as "National Women's History Month"
3 in 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
13 establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural
14 institutions in the nation; and

15 WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in

1 securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but
2 also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement,
3 the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and
4 other movements, especially the peace movement, each of which
5 created a more fair and just society for all; and

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, The commitment of women to educational equality
18 throughout the entirety of academia has resulted in the
19 ascension of women in politics and government; and

20 WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 35th anniversary of the
21 National Women's History Project; and

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

25 WHEREAS, This year, the theme for National Women's History
26 Month is "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives," which presents
27 the opportunity to weave women's stories individually and
28 collectively into the essential fabric of our nation's history;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Against social convention and often legal

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

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

10 WHEREAS, The first International Women's Day was held in 1911
11 and now each year International Women's Day is celebrated on
12 March 8; and

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

18 WHEREAS, The 2015 theme of International Women's Day is
19 "Equality for Women is Progress for all," emphasizing how gender
20 equality, empowerment of women, women's full enjoyment of human
21 rights and the eradication of poverty are essential to economic
22 and social development; 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 and 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 to obtain equal educational
4 rights and to highlight the numerous contributions of women
5 across this Commonwealth and the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The recognition of March 2015 as National Women's
7 History Month and March 8, 2015, as International Women's Day
8 highlights the numerous contributions of women across this
9 Commonwealth and the nation who helped create a more fair and
10 just society for all people; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
12 month of March 2015 as "National Women's History Month" in
13 Pennsylvania and March 8, 2015, as "International Women's Day"
14 and invite the women, men and children of this Commonwealth to
15 continue to explore the critical economic, cultural and social
16 roles women have played and continue to play in every sphere of
17 life in this Commonwealth and the nation.