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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 138 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY McCLINTON, DONATUCCI, KIRKLAND, BURNS, RABB,  
CALTAGIRONE, ISAACSON, WILLIAMS, KORTZ, READSHAW, TOEPEL,  
BIZZARRO, KINSEY, SAPPEY, ZABEL, DAVIDSON, SCHLOSSBERG,  
LONGIETTI, HARRIS, BOBACK, THOMAS, COMMITTA, HILL-EVANS,  
T. DAVIS, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, IRVIN, MILLARD, DIGIROLAMO,  
CIRESI, GOODMAN AND OBERLANDER, MARCH 11, 2019

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MARCH 11, 2019

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 19, 2019, as "Celebrating Women in Public  
2 Office Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The month of March is "Women's History Month" and  
4 celebrates the significant contributions women of all races,  
5 ethnicities and backgrounds have made to the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Women smashed election records during the 2018  
7 election cycle, with more women filing to run, more women  
8 becoming party nominees for the Senate, House of Representatives  
9 and gubernatorial races, and more women winning than ever  
10 before; and

11 WHEREAS, While the 20th century was a pivotal time of growth  
12 for women entering politics, women remain underrepresented in  
13 male-dominated fields; and

14 WHEREAS, Women make up 25% of the United States Senate and  
15 more than 24% of the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, women make up 22% of state House seats and 24% of state Senate seats; and

WHEREAS, This session's freshman class of legislators includes women of color who have broken barriers in their states and the youngest woman ever elected to the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth, women make up 26% of the House of Representatives seats and 24% of Senate seats; and

WHEREAS, For the first time in history, more than 100 women have been elected to the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Women account for 51% of the population of this Commonwealth but only constitute 25% of the Pennsylvania General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, A woman has never served as governor of this Commonwealth and no woman currently holds any Statewide executive office; and

WHEREAS, Until this year there had never been more than two women serving concurrently in the Pennsylvania congressional delegation during its history and only 11 women in total have served; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania ranks 40th in the nation on the 2018 Gender Parity Index of women's electoral success; and

WHEREAS, Providing opportunities to support women in public office is imperative; and

WHEREAS, Women play a critical role in the vitality and diversity of our communities and are essential to ensuring that this Commonwealth is well-represented; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing women in public office brings awareness to the fundamental necessity of their work and inspires other

1 young women to serve their communities; and

2 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives, noting the positive  
3 perspective a woman's point of view may bring in politics, is  
4 committed to encouraging women to participate in the political  
5 process; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize March  
7 19, 2019, as "Celebrating Women in Public Office Day" in  
8 Pennsylvania; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the residents of this Commonwealth unite as we  
10 support women in public office and observe March 19, 2019, with  
11 appropriate activities, events and programs.