
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 714 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, DAVIDSON, THOMAS, READSHAW, KIRKLAND,
FRANKEL, V. BROWN, K. BOYLE, BOBACK, BISHOP, SCHREIBER,
MACKENZIE, MCCARTER, ENGLISH, KORTZ, B. BOYLE, D. MILLER,
NEILSON, VEREB, MOLCHANY, KAVULICH, O'NEILL, YOUNGBLOOD,
SNYDER, O'BRIEN, CONKLIN, LONGIETTI, KIM, MUSTIO, DIGIROLAMO,
RAVENSTAHL, PARKER, MIRABITO, BROWNLEE, PICKETT, MILLARD,
PASHINSKI, KINSEY, LUCAS, CALTAGIRONE, GINGRICH, HARKINS,
P. DALEY, SCHLOSSBERG, BIZZARRO, PAINTER, MAHONEY, EVERETT,
HARHAI, MARSICO, D. COSTA, BENNINGHOFF, HAHN, MAJOR, FREEMAN,
FARINA, ROEBUCK, HENNESSEY, BRIGGS, SIMS, KOTIK, FLECK,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, SCAVELLO, SABATINA, P. COSTA, CORBIN,
SWANGER, MCNEILL, TOOHL, HARPER, GOODMAN AND ROSS,
MARCH 17, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 17, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 8, 2014, as "International Women's Day" and
2 the month of March 2014 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

1 establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural
2 institutions in the nation; and

3 WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in
4 securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but
5 also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement,
6 the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and
7 other movements, especially the peace movement, all of which
8 created a more fair and just society for all; and

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, The commitment of women to educational equality
21 throughout the entirety of academia has resulted in the
22 ascension of women in politics and government; and

23 WHEREAS, The year 2014 marks the 34th anniversary of the
24 National Women's History Project; and

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

28 WHEREAS, This year, the theme for National Women's History
29 Month is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and
30 Commitment," which honors the extraordinary and often

unrecognized determination and tenacity of women; and

WHEREAS, Against social convention and often legal restraints, women have created a legacy that expands the frontiers of possibility for generations to come and have demonstrated their character, courage and commitment as mothers, educators, institution builders, relief workers, CEOs and leaders in business, politics, religion and the community; and

WHEREAS, The lives of these women and their 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 first International Women's Day was held in 1911 and now each year International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8; and

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

WHEREAS, The 2014 theme of International Women's Day is "Inspiring Change" and encourages advocacy for women's advancement everywhere in every way and calls for challenging the status quo of women's equality and vigilance inspiring positive change; and

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

WHEREAS, Thousands of events occur to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women and organizations,

1 governments, charities, educational institutions, women's
2 groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day; and
3 WHEREAS, National Women's History Month and International
4 Women's Day are ideal venues for all Pennsylvanians to reflect
5 and recognize women's struggle to obtain equal educational
6 rights and to highlight the numerous contributions of women
7 across this Commonwealth and the nation; and

8 WHEREAS, The recognition of March 2014 as National Women's
9 History Month and March 8, 2014, as International Women's Day
10 highlights the numerous contributions of women across this
11 Commonwealth and the nation who helped create a more fair and
12 just society for all people; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, The the House of Representatives recognize March
14 2014 as "National Women's History Month" in Pennsylvania and
15 March 8, 2014, as "International Women's Day" and invite the
16 women, men and children of this Commonwealth to continue to
17 explore the critical economic, cultural and social roles women
18 have played and continue to play in every sphere of life in this
19 Commonwealth and the nation.