Second Regular Session Sixty-ninth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R14-0968.01 Lara Margelofsky x3205

SJR14-021

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-021

101 CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY

- 102 MONTH, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, DESIGNATING
 103 MARCH AS COLORADO WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.
 - WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic
 background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength
 of our nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways, especially in the
 areas of political and social change; and
 - 5 WHEREAS, The United States boasts a rich history of women
 6 whose vast and courageous achievements speak to the sense of excellence
 7 and potential shared by all Americans; and
 - 8 WHEREAS, Our country would not be where it is without the

- strength, bravery, insight, and persistence of the women who have come
 before us: and
- WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, political, and social role in every sphere of the life of the nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force, working inside and outside of the home as everything from educators to astronauts; and
- 8 WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in 9 securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in 10 the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial 11 labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements that 12 create a more fair and just society for all; and
- WHEREAS, Women have not only played a critical economic,
 cultural, and social role in our society, but women have also permanently
 changed the face of American government and politics; and
- WHEREAS, In 1893, Colorado was the first state to give women
 the right to vote through popular vote, and a year later Colorado was the
 first state to elect women to the state legislature; and
- WHEREAS, The first women elected to the Colorado General
 Assembly in 1894 were Clara Cressingham and Frances S. Klock, both
 from Arapahoe County, and Carrie C. Holly from Pueblo County, and
 Carrie C. Holly has the distinction of being the first woman in United
 States history to initiate and get a bill passed; and
- WHEREAS, More than 200 women have served in the General
 Assembly since 1913, including Helen R. Robinson, who became the first
 woman to serve in the Colorado Senate, and more than 30 of those
 women have served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate;
 and
- WHEREAS, Today, women legislators play a vital role in
 addressing difficult social and economic issues and helping our country
 and the state of Colorado prepare for the future; and
- WHEREAS, Colorado again this year has the highest percentage of women serving in a state legislature at 41%, while the national percentage of women legislators is 24.2%; and

WHEREAS, Colorado currently has 41 women serving in the
 General Assembly, which is the largest number of women in the
 legislature in Colorado's history; and

WHEREAS, Such contributions and leadership in areas that help
women improve their lives and the lives of those around them led the
United Nations, in 1975, to designate March 8 as International Women's
Day and led the United States Congress, in 1987, to designate the month
of March as National Women's History Month; now, therefore,

9 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly 10 of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

11 That we, the members of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly, 12 hereby declare the month of March 2014 to be Colorado Women's History 13 Month in recognition of the struggles, accomplishments, and 14 contributions of American women throughout history.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
 to Governor John Hickenlooper and to each member of Colorado's
 Congressional delegation.