



## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-023

BY SENATOR(S) Roberts and Todd, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Carroll, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Garcia, Grantham, Heath, Hill, Hodge, Holbert, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Neville T., Newell, Scheffel, Scott, Sonnenberg, Steadman, Tate, Ulibarri, Woods, Cadman; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Lawrence and Ginal, Arndt, Becker K., Brown, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Coram, Court, Danielson, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Esgar, Fields, Foote, Garnett, Hamner, Joshi, Kagan, Klingenschmitt, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lontine, Lundeen, McCann, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Nordberg, Pettersen, Primavera, Priola, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Tyler, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Wist, Young, Hullinghorst.

CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, DESIGNATING 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

WHEREAS, The United States boasts a rich history of women whose vast and courageous achievements speak to the sense of excellence and potential shared by all Americans; and

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

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements that 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 42%, while the national percentage of women state legislators is 24.6%; and

WHEREAS, Colorado currently has 42 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,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

That we, the members of the Seventieth General Assembly, hereby declare the month of March 2016 to be Colorado Women's History Month in recognition of the struggles, accomplishments, and contributions of American women throughout history.

*Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to each member of Colorado's congressional delegation, Governor John Hickenlooper, Lieutenant Governor Joe Garcia, Secretary of State Wayne Williams, State Treasurer Walker Stapleton, and Attorney General Cynthia Coffman.

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Bill L. Cadman  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Dickey Lee Hullinghorst  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Effie Ameen  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES