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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

- 2 WHEREAS, International Women's Day commemorates the 3 global, centuries-long struggle of women to participate fully 4 and equitably in society; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Women's Day first emerged as the result of 6 various labor and suffrage movements in North America and 7 Europe in the early 20th century; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The United Nations celebrated its first official 9 International Women's Day on March 8, 1975 during 10 International Women's Year; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Gender equality is a fundamental human right, and 12 women's full empowerment and participation is integral to 13 solving society's most threatening social, economic, and 14 political problems; and
- WHEREAS, International Women's Day is intended to focus
  the global community's attention on accelerating gender
  parity; and
- WHEREAS, The theme of this year's International Women's
  Day, Break the Bias, calls on all of us to challenge inequality
  and to take meaningful action towards a more equitable and

- 1 inclusive world; and
- 2 WHEREAS, The health disparities that women face have been
- 3 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Healthy women are the backbone of a thriving,
- 5 stable, and resilient society; and
- 6 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is an opportune time to
- 7 raise awareness of the inequity in women's health and begin
- 8 efforts to improve such inequities while encouraging all women
- 9 to prioritize their health; and
- 10 WHEREAS, March 8th of each year is recognized as
- 11 International Women's Day by countries around the world to
- 12 celebrate the past, present, and future achievements of women
- as well as the obstacles that women continue to face in their
- 14 struggle for equal rights and gender equality; and
- 15 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is a time to reflect on
- 16 the progress we have made in the economic, social, and
- 17 political achievements of women and to reaffirm our commitment
- 18 to pursue strategies that guarantee the basic human rights of
- 19 women and girls both statewide and globally, to promote
- 20 meaningful and significant participation of women in all
- 21 facets of our society, to encourage equitable access to and

- 1 healthcare for all women and girls, and to support policy
- 2 initiatives that seek to achieve gender parity and empower all
- 3 women; therefore, be it
- 4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 5 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 6 we declare March 8, 2022 as "International Women's Day" in the
- 7 State of Illinois in order to reflect on the progress made thus
- 8 far in women's rights; and be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That we reaffirm the State's commitment to
  10 pursue strategies that guarantee the basic human rights of
  11 women and girls, to promote meaningful and significant
  12 participation of women in all aspects of our society, to
  13 encourage equitable access to and healthcare for all women and
  14 girls, and to support policy initiatives that seek to achieve
- gender parity and empower all women.