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LRB103 39990 MST 71251 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The United States commemorates National Women's History Month every March to recognize and honor the contributions of women throughout the history of the United States and the women making history now; and

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WHEREAS, Latinas contribute to the cultural, economic, and political power of the United States; and

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WHEREAS, There are approximately 30,000,000 Latinas living in the United States, and 1,120,000 Latinas live in the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Latinas continue to be greatly underrepresented in elected office; and

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WHEREAS, Latinas represent 9.3% of the United States population but only 3% of elected officeholders in state and federal offices across the country; and

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is a model for supporting and electing Latinas; and

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has significantly increased the representation of Latinas at all levels of government by

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1 electing the diverse and powerful Latinas of Illinois' Third
2 Congressional District, including Village of Franklin Park
3 Clerk April Arellano, Village of Addison Trustee Maria Reyes,
4 Bensenville Village Trustee Rosa Carmona, Hanover Township
5 Trustee Denise Noyola, Assistant City Manager of Elgin Karina
6 Nava, Council Member for the City of Elgin Rosamaria Martinez,
7 Alderperson Ruth Cruz, Alderperson Jessie Fuentes, Alderperson
8 Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez, Metropolitan Water Reclamation
9 District of Greater Chicago Board Commissioner Eira L. Corral
10 Sepúlveda, State Representative Eva Dina Delgado, State
11 Representative Lilian Jimenez, State Representative Norma
12 Hernandez, State Senator Karina Villa, State Senator Natalie
13 Toro, State Senator Cristina Castro, and U.S. Representative
14 Delia C. Ramirez; and

15 WHEREAS, Additional Latinas of the Illinois Legislative
16 Latino Caucus include State Senator Celina Villeneuve, State
17 Representative Barbara Hernandez, State Representative Dagmara
18 Avelar, and State Representative Angelica Guerrero Cuellar;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Many of the Latinas elected to their positions
21 are the first Latinas in their roles or the first Latinas to
22 serve in their communities; and

23 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois elected State

1 Representative Elizabeth Hernandez, the highest ranking and
2 longest serving Latina in the Illinois State Assembly, to
3 chair the Illinois Democratic Party, and in that position, she
4 continues to ensure that Latinas are represented and
5 recognized in political positions; and

6 WHEREAS, The work of the dedicated Latinas of the Illinois
7 Legislative Latino Caucus has resulted in successful
8 legislative action on health equity, Latino representation,
9 economic justice, education, immigration, and language access
10 to address the needs of Latinos in all areas of the State; and

11 WHEREAS, The work of Latinas at all levels of government
12 in the State of Illinois has resulted in the codification of
13 women's rights and the expansion of healthcare for
14 undocumented people; and

15 WHEREAS, The grassroots, organizing, and political
16 participation of Latinas resulted in the election of the first
17 Latina from the Midwest to Congress; and

18 WHEREAS, The voices, lived experiences, and contributions
19 of Latinas in the State of Illinois continue to have long
20 lasting, positive impacts for the communities that they serve;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, Latinas representing Latinas is necessary to
2 build a multicultural, multigenerational movement that
3 acknowledges the shared humanity of others; and

4 WHEREAS, Significant progress has been made to increase
5 the representation of Latinas in all decision-making spaces;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, There is still work that needs to be done until we
8 achieve equitable representation of Latinas in all sectors,
9 industries, and leadership roles; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we celebrate the
12 impact and contributions of contemporary Latinas in the State
13 of Illinois; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the value of Latinas and the
15 essential role they play in our multicultural,
16 multigenerational democracy; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we recognize the importance of accurate and
18 timely data on Latinas living in the United States and the role
19 that the U.S. Census Bureau plays in delivering data that
20 impacts the political and economic power and influence of
21 Latinas.