



HR1043

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Every year thousands of events are held globally  
3 to honor women, celebrate their achievements throughout  
4 history, advocate for gender equity, and renew opportunities to  
5 achieve their potential; and

6           WHEREAS, In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York  
7 City demanding voting rights, shorter working hours, and better  
8 pay; this year marks the centennial of the march in New York  
9 City, providing a special incentive to celebrate International  
10 Women's Day; and

11           WHEREAS, The first National Woman's Day was observed across  
12 the United States on 28 February in 1909; in 1910 in  
13 Copenhagen, an International Women's Day was proposed to honor  
14 the women's rights movement and to assist in achieving  
15 universal suffrage for women; over 100 women from 17 countries  
16 unanimously agreed to the proposal; three of these women were  
17 later elected the first women to the parliament of Finland; and

18           WHEREAS, For decades, International Women's Day has grown  
19 from strength to strength annually; for many years the United  
20 Nations has held an annual International Women's Day conference  
21 to coordinate international efforts for women's rights and  
22 participation in social, political, and economic processes;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, 1975 was designated as International Women's Year  
3 by the United Nations; women's organizations and governments  
4 around the world have also observed International Women's Day  
5 annually, holding large-scale events that honor women's  
6 advancements, and with diligent reminders of the continued  
7 vigilance and action required to ensure that women's equality  
8 is gained and maintained in all aspects of life; and

9 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is now an official  
10 holiday in many countries; the tradition sees men honoring  
11 their mothers, wives, girlfriends, colleagues, and other women  
12 with flowers and small gifts; in some countries International  
13 Women's Day has the equivalent status of Mother's Day, where  
14 children give small presents to their mothers and grandmothers;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides global  
17 connections among women regardless of age, class, education,  
18 ethnicity, geography, language, profession, race, or sexual  
19 orientation; and

20 WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides recognition  
21 and celebration of women throughout the centuries; and

1           WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides  
2 acknowledgement that the human rights of women need to be  
3 recognized and guaranteed; and

4           WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides educational  
5 opportunities to address gender equity; and

6           WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides inspiration to  
7 work together for gender equity in every part of the world; and

8           WHEREAS, International Women's Day provides governments  
9 around the world the opportunity to address the economic,  
10 political, and social barriers to gender equity; therefore, be  
11 it

12           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
13 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
14 salute the centenary of International Women's Day in the State  
15 of Illinois and join in this global celebration to act locally  
16 and network globally.