

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2019-1037

TITLE: Student Senate Resolution Celebrating Women's History Month

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SPONSORS: Senate President Libby Shaw, Senate Pro-Tempore Emily Dunson, Senator Brianna Adan, Senator Grace Pepple, Senator Gabi Zlatanoff, Senator Sophia Bond, Senator Zarella Berrocal, Senator Lindsay Kaighin, Lauren Adler

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is celebrated each year during the month of March to acknowledge and celebrate the importance of women in the history of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, National Women's History Week, the predecessor to Women's History Month, was first celebrated in February 1980 after President Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential Proclamation [1]; and,

WHEREAS, Congress expanded National Women's History Week to National Women's History Month in 1987 [2]; and,

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is a time to reflect on the victories in the fight for women's rights as well as recognize their contributions to society; and,

WHEREAS, throughout history, women have faced numerous obstacles while striving for equality and it is important to empower women in politics to continue the progress previously made; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to empower women in politics to continue this progress; and,

WHEREAS, according to the United Nations "As of November 2018, only 3 countries have greater than 50% or more women in single or lower houses of parliament," [3]; and,

WHEREAS, the 116th Congress of the United States is made up of only 24.5% women [4]. This is the highest percentage of women in the Federal Congress in the history of the United States [4]; and,

WHEREAS, research shows that women run for office at lower rates than men [5]; and,

WHEREAS, in the 2018 Midterm Election, less than a quarter of those running for the US House of Representatives were women [6]; and,

WHEREAS, women at the University of Florida continue to make a profound and beneficial impact to our campus; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the importance of reflecting on women's history during the month of March and the progress that has been made in the fight for women's rights.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate is committed to empowering women and encouraging their participation in politics on campus at the University of Florida and beyond.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate proclaims March 1st through 31st as Women's History Month and encourages the student body to celebrate the accomplishments made by women throughout history.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Dean of Students Heather White, Women Affairs Cabinet Director Nicole Corder, and Student Body President Ian Green.

[1] [https://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/TDGT-BA7K43/\\$file/3.12.19+AG+Women's+History+Month+Resolution.pdf](https://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/TDGT-BA7K43/$file/3.12.19+AG+Women's+History+Month+Resolution.pdf)

[2] <https://womenshistorymonth.gov/about/>

[3] <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation/facts-and-figures>

[4] <https://pressgallery.house.gov/member-data>

[5] <https://carnegieendowment.org/2018/02/20/tackling-women-s-underrepresentation-in-u.s.-politics-comparative-perspectives-from-europe-pub-75315>

[6] <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/05/12/us/politics/women-midterm-elections.html>