

**Student Senate** 

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## STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1073

TITLE: Resolution Recognizing Women's History Month and Advancing Gender Equity at the University of Florida

AUTHOR(S): Women's Caucus Policy Chair Anjani Sharma, Women's Advocacy Chair Krystal Felix, Women's Caucus Co-Chair Ella Furman

## **SPONSOR(S)**:

WHEREAS, Women's History Month is recognized annually in March to honor the social, economic, cultural, and political contributions of women throughout history and in contemporary society; and,

WHEREAS, the celebration of Women's History Month in the United States dates back to 1980 when President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation recognizing National Women's History Week, which was later expanded to a month-long observance by Congress in 1987; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida (UF) has a long history of fostering gender equity, with milestones such as the admission of the first female students in 1947, the establishment of the Center for Gender, Sexualities, Women's Studies Research, and the contributions of female leaders in academia, research, and student governance; and,

WHEREAS, women make up a significant portion of UF's student body, faculty, and administration, with female students comprising over 57% of the undergraduate population contributing to academic excellence, research, leadership, and community engagement [1]; and,

WHEREAS, despite progress, gender disparities persist in many professional fields, particularly in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), politics, and corporate leadership, where women remain underrepresented in senior positions, highlighting the need for continued advocacy and systemic change [2]; and,

WHEREAS, women's contributions to academia, activism, healthcare, business, law, and government should be continuously recognized and celebrated, as they play an essential role in shaping policies, advancing innovation, and driving social progress; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate has a responsibility to support gender equity initiatives, advocate for policies that address gender-based discrimination, and amplify women's voices across campus; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate continues to recognize the month of March as Women's History Month.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the UF community to participate in events and initiatives that honor and celebrate women's achievements and learn about the contributions of women leaders on campus.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages student organizations to integrate discussions on women's history, gender equity, and women's rights into educational programming and curricula across all disciplines.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research Dr. Rebecca Nagy, Student Government Cabinet Director Courtney Jones, and the Women's Student Association President.

[1] UF Equity Report 2022-2023 <a href="https://data-apps.ir.aa.ufl.edu/public/diversity/UF%20Equity%20Report%202022.pdf">https://data-apps.ir.aa.ufl.edu/public/diversity/UF%20Equity%20Report%202022.pdf</a>

[1] U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Women in the Workforce: A Databook" https://www.broadridge.com/advisor/docs/seminar/womenandmoney\_sample.pdf

Date

Senate President