
THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 75
Author: Skinner (D), et al.
Amended: 3/14/22
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Women's History Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution states that the Senate joins the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls in honoring the contributions of women, and proclaims the month of March 2022 as Women's History Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) American women of every culture, class, and ethnic background have participated in the founding and building of our nation, have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our nation, and have played a critical role in shaping the economic, cultural, and social fabric of our society, not in the least of ways through their participation in the labor force, working both inside and outside the home.
- 2) Women have been leaders in every movement for social change, including their own movement for suffrage and equal rights, the fight for emancipation, the struggle to organize labor unions, and the civil rights movement, as well as leading the call for peace and organizing to preserve the environment.
- 3) The celebration of Women's History Month will provide an opportunity for schools and communities to focus attention on the historical role and accomplishments of the women of California and the United States and for students, in particular, to benefit from an awareness of these contributions.
- 4) Women's History Month will be not only a call to acknowledge the outstanding American women whose names we know, but also a call to pay homage to the many women who have anonymously shaped our collective past.

- 5) The observance of Women’s History Week was initiated by the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women in 1977, a celebration that evolved into Women’s History Month, commemorated throughout the nation by schools, historians, and community groups.
- 6) The achievements of the women who have gone before us will enable contemporary women and men to create tomorrow’s history by working toward an end to physical and sexual violence against women, discrimination and harassment in employment, and the relegation to poverty status of many women, and by advocating for the full participation of women in the economic and political arena, the provision of adequate childcare, respect for those who choose homemaking and motherhood as their career, and equal access to all of the opportunities this great nation has to offer.
- 7) The story of the women’s rights movement deserves telling because of the significance and scope of women’s role in making history and shaping the cultural and societal makeup of California and the United States. This story is a rich part of our common heritage, a story of gallantry and devotion to the belief that the opportunity for complete human dignity should not be denied to one-half of the state and the nation.

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Comments

The author states, “In recognizing March 2022 as Women’s History Month, we acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of women to our society, without which the strength and growth of our nation would not be possible. Women’s labor – both paid and unpaid – including their activism, innovation, and struggle for equal rights and justice, continues to drive our nation forward, creating opportunities and prosperity from which we all benefit. By remembering the achievements, sacrifice, perseverance, and fortitude of the women who have come before us, we unearth a clearer path toward a more equitable and just future.”

Related/Prior Legislation

The following are the most recent Senate measures relating to Women’s History Month:

- SR 15 (Skinner, 2021) – adopted by the Senate on March 15, 2021.

- SR 79 (Leyva, 2020) – adopted by the Senate on June 11, 2020.
- SR 18 (Leyva, 2019) – adopted by the Senate on March 4, 2019.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 3/14/22)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 3/14/22)

None received

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3/16/22 12:30:08

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