



2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 153

February 28, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives ZAMARRIPA, C. TAYLOR, SUBECK, SINICKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, BROSTOFF, CABRERA, CONSIDINE, CROWLEY, EMERSON, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, B. MEYERS, MILROY, NEUBAUER, OHNSTAD, POPE, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, SPREITZER, STUBBS, TUSLER, VINING, GOYKE, VRUWINK, FIELDS, RIEMER and MCGUIRE, cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, SCHACHTNER, L. TAYLOR, BERNIER, BEWLEY, LARSON, RINGHAND, RISSER, SHILLING and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming March 2020 as women's history month.

2 Whereas, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have
3 made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our nation in countless
4 recorded and unrecorded ways; and

5 Whereas, American women have played, and continue to play, a critical
6 economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of life and constitute a significant
7 portion of the labor force working inside and outside the home; and

8 Whereas, American women have played a unique role throughout the history
9 of the nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force; and

10 Whereas, American women were particularly important in the establishment
11 of early philanthropic and cultural institutions in our nation; and

12 Whereas, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own
13 rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the
14 emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement,

1 and the peace movement, all of which have created a fairer and more just society for
2 all; and

3 Whereas, in 1925, not one but three women were the first female assembly
4 representatives to be elected to the Wisconsin Legislature; and

5 Whereas, Assembly Representative Mildred Barber, a Republican teacher,
6 Assembly Representative Helen Brooks, a Republican teacher, and Assembly
7 Representative Helen Thompson, a Republican teacher and hotel keeper, paved the
8 way for other female leaders to hold legislative positions in Wisconsin; and

9 Whereas, Democrat Marcia P. Coggs was elected to the state assembly in 1977,
10 becoming the first African American woman to serve in the assembly; and

11 Whereas, in 1978, Democrat Vel Phillips became the first African American
12 woman elected to statewide office as secretary of state; and

13 Whereas, Democrat Gwen Moore, elected in 1992, became the first African
14 American woman elected to the state senate; and

15 Whereas, in 2014, Republican Pat Strachota became the first woman to serve
16 as assembly majority leader; and

17 Whereas, in 1985, Senator Susan Engeleiter became the first Republican
18 woman to be senate minority leader, and she was the youngest woman ever elected
19 to the Wisconsin Legislature; and

20 Whereas, in 2003, Senator Mary Panzer became the first Republican woman to
21 be senate majority leader, and in 2005, Senator Judith Robson became the first
22 Democratic woman to be senate minority leader and, in 2007, became the first
23 Democratic woman to be senate majority leader, making them the highest-ranking
24 women legislators; and

