

HOUSE RESOLUTION 199

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION celebrating the month of March as Women's History Month.

WHEREAS, throughout the history of this nation and our great State, American women have led movements for social and economic justice, made groundbreaking scientific discoveries, enriched our culture with stunning works of art and literature, and charted bold directions in our foreign policy; and

WHEREAS, March has long been considered an annual commemorative period of time for focusing attention on the roles and accomplishments of women in our society; and

WHEREAS, women have served our country with valor, from the battlefields of the Revolutionary War to the deserts of Iraq and mountains of Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, countless women have put their shoulders to the wheel of progress and effected matchless advancements in this world in infinite ways; and

WHEREAS, there were activists who gathered at Seneca Falls and gave expression to a righteous cause, trailblazers who defied convention and shattered glass ceilings, millions who claimed control of their own bodies, voices, and lives; and together they have pushed our nation toward equality, liberation, and acceptance of women's rights to choose their own destinies and to shape the futures of the world's people and nations; and

WHEREAS, through the grit and sacrifice of generations, American women and girls have gained greater opportunities and more representation than ever before, yet they continue to face workplace discrimination, a higher risk of sexual assault, and an earnings gap that will cost the average woman hundreds of thousands of dollars over the course of her working lifetime; and

WHEREAS, as we honor the many women who have shaped our history, let us also celebrate those who have shaped history in our own time: Pat Head Summitt, the greatest basketball coach of all time; Condoleezza Rice, Hillary Clinton, and Madeleine K. Albright, former U.S. Secretaries of State; world-class athlete Wilma Rudolph; suffragettes Ida B. Wells and Anne Dudley; and three females who serve on the current Tennessee Supreme Court, Justices Janice Holder, Connie Clark, and Sharon Lee; and

WHEREAS, let us remember in the midst of celebration of women and their historical impact on our society, when women succeed, America succeeds, as does Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby join with Tennesseans and all Americans in the celebration of March as National Women's History Month, as we honor the myriad and marvelous accomplishments of women in making and keeping this nation strong and free.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.