

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

## SENATE RESOLUTION

TO PROCLAIM MARCH 2021 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN  
ARKANSAS.

### Subtitle

TO PROCLAIM MARCH 2021 WOMEN'S HISTORY  
MONTH IN ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, the purpose of Women's History Month is to recognize the importance of women in history and to increase awareness of women's involvement in history; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the United States, whether in the home, the workplace, the school, the courts, or during wartime, women have fought for themselves, their families, and all people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in the United States; and

WHEREAS, women led the efforts to secure suffrage and equal opportunities for women, and also served in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, labor movements, civil rights movements, and other causes to create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, suffragists wrote, marched, were arrested, and ultimately succeeded in achieving the enactment of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, Section 1 of which provides that "The



right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex”, and of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which extended the protection of the right to vote to women of color and language minorities; and

WHEREAS, women have been and continue to be leaders in social change efforts and in the fields of business, science, government, math, art, literature, music, film, athletics, and more; and

WHEREAS, women now represent approximately half of the workforce of the United States; and

WHEREAS, women have been vital to the mission of the United States Armed Forces since the American Revolution, serving in volunteer and enlisted positions, with more than two hundred thousand (200,000) active duty service women and two million (2,000,000) veterans representing every branch of service; and

WHEREAS, Jeannette Rankin of Montana was the first woman elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1916, and Hattie Wyatt Caraway of Arkansas was the first woman elected to the United States Senate in 1932; and

WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation designating the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women’s History Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, a bipartisan group of United States Senators introduced the first joint resolution to pass the United States Congress designating Women’s History Month; and

WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan issued the first Women’s History Month Presidential Proclamation in 1987; and

WHEREAS, despite the advancements of women in the United States, much remains to be done to ensure that women realize their full potential as equal members of society in the United States,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate proclaim March 2021 as Women's History Month in  
Arkansas and recognize the importance of women in the history of the United  
States.