

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-0718.01 Mikaela Malouf x5492

HJR26-1020

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Ricks and Espenoza,

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Marchman and Wallace,

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House Committees

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-1020

101 CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 8, 2026, AS  
102 "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN COLORADO, AND, IN  
103 CONNECTION THEREWITH, ACKNOWLEDGING THE COUNTLESS  
104 CONTRIBUTIONS THAT WOMEN HAVE MADE IN HISTORY AND TO  
105 CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.

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1 WHEREAS, March 8 is International Women's Day, a global  
2 celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements  
3 of women, and a call to action for advancing gender equality worldwide;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is an annual celebration  
6 to recognize that women have fought hard to secure their rights of  
7 suffrage and equal opportunity and to honor the profound and enduring

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

1 contributions that women have made throughout history in every sphere  
2 of life; and

3 WHEREAS, Through their contributions to the abolitionist  
4 movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement,  
5 the civil rights movement, and, especially, the peace movement, women  
6 have worked to create a more fair and just society for all; and

7 WHEREAS, Women have played a critical role in shaping history:  
8 From warriors to world leaders, artists to activists, educators to  
9 entrepreneurs, and scientists to social reformers, though their stories are  
10 often untold and underrepresented; and

11 WHEREAS, Women and girls contribute to every sector of society  
12 and deserve to have their rights and opportunities protected and enhanced,  
13 regardless of their race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or  
14 socioeconomic background; and

15 WHEREAS, Throughout history, women have fought tirelessly for  
16 equal rights, justice, and recognition, often overcoming systemic  
17 obstacles, prejudice, and inequality to create lasting social change, and  
18 have exemplified extraordinary courage and resilience by breaking  
19 barriers and leaving legacies that continue to inspire generations of  
20 women around the world and working tirelessly to ensure that the doors  
21 opened by the women who came before us remain open for the next  
22 generation of women leaders, thinkers, and changemakers; and

23 WHEREAS, Women have made significant strides in economic  
24 empowerment, establishing businesses, securing wealth, and leading  
25 industries, while challenging societal norms and expanding economic  
26 opportunities for women of all races and backgrounds, and have  
27 demonstrated leadership, ingenuity, and persistence in achieving success;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, In 1893, Colorado was one of the first states to give  
30 women the right to vote and the first to do so through a voter referendum;  
31 and

32 WHEREAS, After women were given the right to vote in  
33 Colorado, women across the state campaigned to bring that right to  
34 women throughout the rest of the nation; and

1           WHEREAS, Colorado women have always been at the forefront  
2 of political and civic engagement, advocating for the rights of all people  
3 and shaping state policy, including in 1894, when Colorado made history  
4 by electing three women to the Colorado House of Representatives; and

5           WHEREAS, In 1896, a national survey named Colorado as one of  
6 two states that were "banner states" for women's officeholding in the  
7 nation; and

8           WHEREAS, Past women of distinction and honorable mention  
9 within the Colorado General Assembly include Arie Parks Taylor, the  
10 first African American woman elected to the Colorado General  
11 Assembly; Polly Baca, the first minority woman and first Latina elected  
12 to the Colorado State Senate, the first Latina in the nation to serve in both  
13 the House of Representatives and the Senate of her state legislature, and  
14 the first Latina to serve in leadership in any state Senate within the United  
15 States; and Norma Anderson, the first woman to serve as Majority Leader  
16 in both the Colorado House of Representatives and the Colorado State  
17 Senate; and

18           WHEREAS, Women legislators play a vital role in addressing  
19 difficult social and economic issues and helping our country and the state  
20 of Colorado prepare for the future. Currently, women make up almost  
21 sixty percent of the membership of the House of Representatives and a  
22 total of fifty-one women serve in the General Assembly, the largest  
23 number of women to serve in the legislature in Colorado's history; now,  
24 therefore,

25           *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth*  
26 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

27           (1) That we, the members of the General Assembly, hereby honor  
28 the achievements, contributions, and resilience of women throughout  
29 history, celebrating the strength, wisdom, and courage of all women who  
30 have shaped our world;

31           (2) That we encourage the continued celebration of International  
32 Women's Day as a means to reflect on the past, present, and future  
33 achievements of women and to inspire ongoing efforts toward a future in  
34 which gender equality is fully realized, in which every woman has the  
35 opportunity to succeed, and in which the power of women's voices is  
36 valued and respected in every corner of Colorado;

1           (3) That we commit to advancing the goals of women's  
2 empowerment, education, and equality by continuing to support policies  
3 that eliminate barriers to opportunity, recognizing the indispensable role  
4 that women play in building thriving economies, vibrant communities,  
5 and peaceful societies;

6           (4) That we recognize that, while we have made significant  
7 progress, there is much work left to be done to create a world where every  
8 woman, regardless of her background, race, or circumstance, has the  
9 opportunity to reach her fullest potential, and that we commit to a future  
10 in which the contributions of women are valued, celebrated, and reflected  
11 in every aspect of society today, tomorrow, and always; and

12           (5) That we, the members of the General Assembly, recognize  
13 March 8 as International Women's Day in Colorado and invite the people  
14 of this state to explore the critical economic, cultural, and social roles that  
15 women have played and continue to play in every sphere of life in  
16 Colorado and in the United States.