

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R25-0867.01 Katelyn Guderian x3205

HR25-1003

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Espenoza, Bacon, Duran, English, Feret, Garcia, Gilchrist, Hamrick, Jackson, Lieder, Lindsay, Lukens, McCormick, Phillips, Ricks, Rydin, Sirota, Smith, Stewart K., Stewart R., Story, Titone, Velasco, Willford, Zokaia

House Committees

HOUSE RESOLUTION 25-1003

101 **CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF A DIVERSE**
102 **LEGAL COMMUNITY IN COLORADO AND HONORING THE**
103 **CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE COLORADO WOMEN'S BAR**
104 **ASSOCIATION.**

1 WHEREAS, The legal profession upholds the nation's values,
2 including the rule of law, equal justice, judicial independence,
3 accountability, excellence, advancing justice, and upholding the highest
4 standards of the legal profession; and

5 WHEREAS, Historically, women faced significant barriers to
6 entering the legal field, and, even after admission, they have continued to
7 encounter challenges; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1894, Jeannette Dunham Bennett and Ann Hunt
9 became the first women to earn law degrees in Colorado, marking the
10 beginning of women's formal entry into the state's legal profession; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1897, the Colorado General Assembly enacted a
12 statute ensuring that no person could be denied a license to practice law
13 on account of race or sex, reflecting the state's early commitment to

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 inclusivity in the legal profession; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1903, Ida L. Gregory became Colorado's first
3 female judge, setting a precedent for women's leadership in the judiciary;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In 1917, Clara Ruth Mozzor was appointed as
6 Assistant Attorney General of Colorado, becoming the first woman to
7 serve in such a role in any American state; and

8 WHEREAS, Gale Norton served as Colorado's Attorney General
9 from 1991 to 1999, becoming the first woman to hold this position in the
10 state; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1994, Claudia J. Jordan became the first African
12 American female judge in Colorado, further diversifying the state's
13 judiciary; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1997, Theresa M. Cisneros became the first
15 Hispanic American female judge in Colorado's Fourth Judicial District;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In 2016, Chelsea Malone, who is of Korean descent,
18 became the first Asian American female state judge in Colorado; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2024, Monica M. Márquez became the first Latina
20 and first openly gay person to serve as Chief Justice of the Colorado
21 Supreme Court; and

22 WHEREAS, As of 2024, women comprised 41% of attorneys in
23 Colorado, reflecting significant progress over the past decades; and

24 WHEREAS, The Colorado Women's Bar Association (CWBA)
25 has been instrumental in promoting the advancement of women in the
26 legal profession and advocating for a more diverse and representative
27 legal system; and

28 WHEREAS, The CWBA's Judicial Committee assists qualified
29 women statewide in applying for judicial positions and openings on
30 judicial nominating commissions, encouraging the advancement of
31 women in the judiciary and fighting bias and discrimination against
32 women in the courtroom; and

1 WHEREAS, The CWBA works to increase access to justice and
2 representation in all areas of the legal system, including the judiciary; and

3 WHEREAS, A diverse legal community enhances the quality of
4 justice and ensures that the legal system serves all citizens effectively;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, March is nationally recognized as Women's History
7 Month, a time to honor women's contributions in American history; now,
8 therefore,

9 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth*
10 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

11 (1) That we recognize the vital importance of diversity within
12 Colorado's legal community and commend the Colorado Women's Bar
13 Association for its unwavering commitment to supporting the
14 advancement of women and strengthening the legal profession in our
15 state; and

16 (2) That we encourage continued efforts to foster a legal
17 environment that values merit, integrity, and the diverse perspectives of
18 all its members, ensuring that the legal system remains fair and just for
19 every Coloradan.

20 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to
21 the Colorado Women's Bar Association and the Colorado Bar
22 Association.