

Senators Emmons, Horn, Brandenburg, Proos, Gregory, Schmidt, Knollenberg, Marleau, Bieda, Knezek, Hopgood, Zorn, Booher, Warren and Meekhof offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 19.

A resolution to commemorate March 2015 as Women's History Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Michigan women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of Michigan in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

Whereas, Michigan women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social roles in every sphere of the life of Michigan by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

Whereas, Accomplished women in Michigan such as Cora Reynolds Anderson, Lorraine Beebe, Cora Mae Brown, Anna Clemenc, Mary Stallings Coleman, Betty Ford, Martha Griffiths, Marie-Therese Guyon-Cadillac, Erma Henderson, Mildred Jeffrey, Rosa Parks, Elly Peterson, Dorothy Comstock Riley, Anna Howard Shaw, Lucinda Stone, and Sojourner Truth deserve more recognition; and

Whereas, By providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of Michigan, women have played a unique role throughout the history of this state; and

Whereas, Women in Michigan were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in Michigan; and

Whereas, Michigan women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

Whereas, They have been leaders not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the movements concerning abolition, emancipation, industrial labor, civil rights, peace, and other movements which created a more fair and just society for all; and

Whereas, The population of Michigan is 51 percent women. The percentage of women legislators in the Michigan House of Representatives is 25 percent, and the percentage of women legislators in the Michigan Senate is 11 percent; and

Whereas, Despite these contributions, the role of Michigan women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the literature, teaching, and study of the history of Michigan; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body commemorate March 2015 as Women's History Month in the state of Michigan.