

By: Eckhardt

S.R. No. 638

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Austin Branch of the American Association of
2 University Women is celebrating its 100th anniversary in November
3 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, AAUW was founded in 1881, when a small group of
5 female college graduates banded together with the goal of promoting
6 women's career advancement and encouraging more women to pursue
7 higher education; the organization's mission is to advance gender
8 equity through research, education, and advocacy, and it has
9 supported the academic achievements of many thousands of women
10 scholars throughout its history; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1923, the Austin Branch of AAUW was organized at
12 the Driskill Hotel by 15 women, including prominent leaders in the
13 civic, religious, and cultural life of the city; over the course of
14 a century, the Austin Branch has distinguished itself as a force for
15 good in the community by forming partnerships with organizations
16 such as the Austin Public Library Association, the Community
17 Council of Austin, the League of Women Voters, Planned Parenthood,
18 and the Texas Freedom Network and participating in such endeavors
19 as the March of Dimes campaign, the College Faculty Program, and the
20 environmental coalition We Care Austin; and

21 WHEREAS, Early in its history, the Austin Branch was involved
22 in the founding of the city's first public library, and it was
23 integral to the establishment of a Well Baby Clinic and the Chalmers
24 Nursery School; moreover, the branch's members have taken part in

1 charitable initiatives to provide food and clothing to residents in
2 need and to improve conditions at Brackenridge Hospital; and

3 WHEREAS, The Austin Branch created an endowment fund that has
4 been used to award fellowships to doctoral students at The
5 University of Texas, as well as an endowed scholarship for female
6 students enrolled at Austin Community College; the branch has also
7 sponsored Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics, a
8 conference for middle school girls, and a host of other symposia,
9 workshops, and events with the purpose of fostering dialogue on
10 important issues such as educational and pay equity; and

11 WHEREAS, AAUW's Austin Branch is aligned with its
12 trailblazing parent organization in its efforts to build a more
13 equitable society and to empower women in all walks of life, and it
14 is a pleasure to join its members in commemorating this special
15 milestone in the organization's proud history; now, therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
18 hereby commemorate the centennial of the Austin Branch of the
19 American Association of University Women and extend to all those
20 associated with the organization sincere best wishes for continued
21 success; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the
24 Texas Senate.