

By: Thompson of Harris

H.R. No. 1159

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The observance of Women's History Month during March  
2 2017 provides an ideal opportunity to acknowledge the historic  
3 contributions made by women in the Lone Star State and beyond; and

4 WHEREAS, Since the founding of the Texas Republic, women have  
5 played crucial roles in the social, economic, and cultural spheres;  
6 Texas women participated in the abolitionist movement, and they not  
7 only secured their own right to vote but have also worked in behalf  
8 of all citizens to promote equal opportunity, civil rights, peace,  
9 and justice; and

10 WHEREAS, Examples of the noteworthy accomplishments of women  
11 abound; educator and suffragist Annie Webb Blanton became the first  
12 woman in Texas to hold a statewide public office when she was  
13 elected state superintendent for public instruction in 1918;  
14 aviation pioneer Bessie Coleman, born in Atlanta, Texas, in 1892,  
15 became the first African American woman to receive a pilot's  
16 license and embarked on a career as a stunt flyer; the daughter of  
17 migrant workers, Rebecca Flores Harrington was the first in her  
18 family to attend college, and after graduating from the University  
19 of Michigan, she dedicated herself to social justice and became  
20 head of the Texas chapter of the United Farm Workers movement;  
21 engineer Frances "Poppy" Northcutt was the first woman to hold an  
22 operational support role in NASA's mission control, and she served  
23 as president of the Houston chapter of the National Organization  
24 for Women; after leaving hit pop group Destiny's Child, Beyoncé

1 Knowles built an even bigger solo career and established herself as  
2 a business mogul and cultural icon while embracing feminism;  
3 Barbara Bush, the daughter of former president George W. Bush,  
4 cofounded Global Health Corps and, at 26, became chief executive of  
5 the leadership development organization, which focuses on health  
6 equity; and

7 WHEREAS, The strength of our nation depends heavily on the  
8 continued advancement of women; by acknowledging the enormous  
9 positive impact they have made, we encourage future generations to  
10 ensure that gender is not an obstacle that must be overcome on the  
11 road to achievement; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby recognize March as Women's History Month and  
14 celebrate the contributions made by women to this state and nation.