

By: Button

H.R. No. 984

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The observance of Women's History Month in March
2 2019 provides an opportunity to celebrate the enormous
3 contributions women have made to our society; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1978, the event began as a weeklong program in
5 Santa Rosa, California, sponsored by the Education Task Force of
6 the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women; the organizers
7 selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International
8 Women's Day; activities included an essay contest, presentations at
9 dozens of schools, and a downtown parade; and

10 WHEREAS, Other communities across the country were inspired
11 to launch their own Women's History Week celebrations the following
12 year; in 1980, the National Women's History Alliance led a
13 consortium of women's groups and historians in advocating for
14 national recognition, and that February, President Jimmy Carter
15 issued a proclamation declaring the week of March 8 to be National
16 Women's History Week; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1987, at the behest of the National Women's
18 History Alliance, Congress expanded the observance to the entire
19 month; the alliance selects the theme each year, and for 2019, it
20 has chosen "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence" to
21 honor those "who have led efforts to end war, violence, and
22 injustice and pioneered the use of nonviolence to change society";
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Many historians in Texas have dedicated their

1 efforts to discovering and recognizing the legacy of women in the
2 Lone Star State and exploring what it means to be a Texas woman; in
3 1991 Governor Ann Richards supported this endeavor by issuing the
4 first gubernatorial proclamation in the state's history to declare
5 March Women's History Month; and

6 WHEREAS, Women have played a vital role in the development of
7 Texas and the United States, and National Women's History Month
8 provides an opportunity to acknowledge achievements that have too
9 often gone unsung; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
11 Legislature hereby recognize March 2019 as National Women's History
12 Month.