

## 2011-K227

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION recognizing March 2011 as Women's History Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, Women's History Month, celebrated each year in March, is a time to reflect upon and pay tribute to the women for their contributions to their communities and their professions; and

WHEREAS, March is Women's History Month, and March 8th is International Women's Day; and

WHEREAS, Each year, New York State officially sets aside time to recognize the unique and varied contributions that women have made to New York and its society; and

WHEREAS, New York has been the home of many extraordinary women who have led society to a better future: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony led the campaign for women's suffrage; Sojourner Truth spoke out for the abolition of slavery and for suffrage for women; suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt became the first president of the League of Women Voters; Emma Willard opened the first endowed institution for the education for women; Civil War surgeon Dr. Mary E. Walker was the only woman ever awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor; Harriet Tubman was an abolitionist who led slaves to freedom by way of the Underground Railroad; in the 19th century, Elizabeth Blackwell and Belva Lockwood were the first women in the fields of medicine and law; pioneer birth control educator and advocate Margaret Sanger established a research center in New York City; Emma Goldman founded the Free Speech League which led to the American Civil Liberties Union; humanitarian Eleanor Roosevelt served as United States Delegate to the United Nations; civil rights lawyer and New York State Senator Constance Baker Motley became the first black woman to sit on the U.S. District Court in New York, and so many more known and unknown women who championed rights and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, Since 1983, New York women legislators have worked through the bipartisan Legislative Women's Caucus to improve the representation and participation of women in all areas of government, support issues that affect women and families in New York State, and provide a network

of support for the women in the state legislature; and  
WHEREAS, Today, 48 women serve in the New York State Legislature,  
holding leadership positions in both houses and bringing the diverse  
experiences of women into law and public policy; now, therefore, be it  
RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to  
recognize March 2011 as Women's History Month in the State of New York,  
and to honor the Women of New York State; and be it further  
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-  
smitted to the Legislative Women's Caucus of New York State.