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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, International Women's Day commemorates the
3 global, centuries-long struggle of women to participate fully
4 and equitably in society; and

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WHEREAS, Women's Day first emerged as the result of
6 various labor and suffrage movements in North America and
7 Europe in the early 20th century; and

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WHEREAS, The United Nations celebrated its first official
9 International Women's Day on March 8, 1975 during
10 International Women's Year; and

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WHEREAS, Gender equality is a fundamental human right, and
12 women's full empowerment and participation is integral to
13 solving society's most threatening social, economic, and
14 political problems; and

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WHEREAS, International Women's Day is intended to focus
16 the global community's attention on accelerating gender
17 parity; and

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WHEREAS, The theme of this year's International Women's
19 Day, Embrace Equity, seeks to get the world talking about why
20 equal opportunities are no longer enough and can in fact be

1 exclusionary, rather than inclusive; and

2 WHEREAS, The health disparities that women face have been
3 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

4 WHEREAS, Healthy women are the backbone of a thriving,
5 stable, and resilient society; and

6 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is an opportune time to
7 raise awareness of the inequity in women's health and begin
8 efforts to improve such inequities while encouraging all women
9 to prioritize their health; and

10 WHEREAS, March 8th of each year is recognized as
11 International Women's Day by countries around the world to
12 celebrate the past, present, and future achievements of women
13 as well as the obstacles that women continue to face in their
14 struggle for equal rights and gender equality; and

15 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is a time to reflect on
16 the progress we have made in the economic, social, and
17 political achievements of women and to reaffirm our commitment
18 to pursue strategies that guarantee the basic human rights of
19 women and girls both statewide and globally, to promote
20 meaningful and significant participation of women in all
21 facets of our society, to encourage equitable access to and

1 healthcare for all women and girls, and to support policy
2 initiatives that seek to achieve gender parity and empower all
3 women; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we declare March 8, 2023 as "International Women's Day" in the
7 State of Illinois in order to reflect on the progress made thus
8 far in women's rights; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we reaffirm the State's commitment to
10 pursue strategies that guarantee the basic human rights of
11 women and girls, to promote meaningful and significant
12 participation of women in all aspects of our society, to
13 encourage equitable access to and healthcare for all women and
14 girls, and to support policy initiatives that seek to achieve
15 gender parity and empower all women.