

1 [Women’s History Month - March 2026]

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3 **Resolution recognizing the month of March 2026 as Women’s History Month in the City**
4 **and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Every issue is a women’s issue, and throughout history, women have
7 organized, advocated, and fought to bring a women-centered lens to policymaking; and

8 WHEREAS, March is nationally recognized as Women’s History Month, set aside to
9 honor women’s contributions, their legacy of struggle, and the incredible leadership of women
10 that has propelled our country forward throughout its history; and

11 WHEREAS, The first National Women’s Day in the United States was organized by the
12 Socialist Party of America in 1909, followed by the International Women’s Day in 1911; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1980, a consortium of women’s groups and historians successfully
14 lobbied for national recognition, leading to the White House formally designating the first
15 Women’s History Week; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration declaring the entire month of
17 March to be recognized as National Women’s History Month; and

18 WHEREAS, This year, the National Women’s History Alliance has designated the 2026
19 theme to be “Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future” in recognition of
20 the role that women have played in charging toward lasting and sustainable solutions to a
21 range of global challenges including climate justice, economic insecurity, health disparities,
22 threats to democratic participation, and more; and

23 WHEREAS, Equal suffrage was passed in 1911 in California, making California one of
24 16 states where women had the right to vote before the 19th Amendment; and

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1 WHEREAS, In 1920, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution went into
2 effect, eliminating sex as a basis to deny voting rights; and

3 WHEREAS, The right to vote was not guaranteed for African American, Indigenous,
4 Asian, and Latinx women and many women of color experienced disenfranchisement until the
5 Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

6 WHEREAS, For generations, women have had to fight for rights that are not inherently
7 immutable including and in particular, rights concerning reproductive health, gender affirming
8 care, equal pay for equal work, safety from gender-based violence, and more; and

9 WHEREAS, Even when rights have been earned through advocacy and legislated
10 through the courts, in recent years we have witnessed a rollback of major legislative wins,
11 including the repeal of Roe v. Wade via Dobbs v Jackson Women’s Health Organization,
12 which ended 50 years of federal constitutional protection for abortion; and

13 WHEREAS, The application and implementation of women’s rights in different policy
14 areas are never evenly applied to all women, oftentimes leaving women of color, working
15 women, immigrant women, transgender women, women with disabilities, and other groups
16 behind; and

17 WHEREAS, Despite this, women will continue to fight tirelessly for the rights that they
18 are entitled to at all levels of government; and

19 WHEREAS, Locally, San Francisco has been a leader on women’s issues; and

20 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women was established
21 in 1975 as a result of the strong advocacy of leading local women to promote fair treatment
22 and advancement of women through policy, legislation, and programs; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1994, the Department on the Status of Women was created to monitor
24 the status of women throughout San Francisco, investigate inequalities, and propose
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1 remedies to empower and improve the whole lives of women through health and safety,
2 economic security, civic engagement, and political empowerment; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2022, San Franciscans voted to establish the Office of Victim and
4 Witness Rights, establishing a right to counsel for domestic violence victims in civil
5 proceedings, and establishing a pilot program to provide civil counsel in domestic violence-
6 related proceedings through legal services and pro bono attorneys; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2024, San Franciscans also voted to pass a \$300 million general
8 obligation bond to fund affordable housing with specific carveouts for survivors of domestic
9 violence; and

10 WHEREAS, This month, we celebrate and honor the women who have shaped our
11 history and who continue to make progress in our communities in the continued fight to secure
12 women’s rights and protections that should be inherent; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reaffirm its commitment to work in
14 partnership with advocates, community organizations, and more to push forward meaningful
15 policy that centers women; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the
17 month of March 2026 as Women’s History Month and commits to gender equity and policies
18 that improve the lives of women in the City.

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