

1 [Women’s History Month - March]

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

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6 WHEREAS, March is nationally recognized as Women’s History Month, set aside to
7 commemorate and encourage the study, observance, and celebration of the vital role of
8 women in American history; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States, the first National Women’s Day, organized by the
10 Socialist Party of America, took place on February 28, 1909, in New York, followed by the first
11 International Women’s Day on March 19, 1911; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1980, a group of women came together in Santa Rosa, California, to
13 form the National Women’s History Project, an effort to shine a light on women’s historical
14 achievements; and the coalition successfully lobbied Congress and the White House to
15 designate the week of March 8th as National Women’s History Week; and

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

18 WHEREAS, The National Women’s History Project designated this year’s theme as
19 “Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced;” and

20 WHEREAS, Equal suffrage was passed in 1911 in California, making California one of
21 16 states where women had the right to vote before the 19th Amendment; and in 1920, the
22 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution went into effect, eliminating sex as a basis
23 to deny voting rights; and

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

4 WHEREAS, Women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of
5 suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation
6 movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements to
7 create a more fair and just society for all; however, despite these contributions, the role of
8 women, in particular women of color, in American history has been consistently overlooked
9 and undervalued; and

10 WHEREAS, The current Coronavirus pandemic and health, economic, caregiving, and
11 climate crises have exposed and exacerbated disparities facing women of color; and

12 WHEREAS, This month, we honor the women who have shaped our history and who
13 have sacrificed to ensure greater equity for women and all individuals in the United States, as
14 well as celebrating women who are working to make progress in our times and our
15 communities; now, therefore, be it

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

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