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**Introduced by Senator Solis**  
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Napolitano)

February 9, 1995

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13—Relative to  
Women’s History Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 13, as introduced, Solis. Women’s History Month and  
International Women’s Day.

This measure would designate the month of March 1995 as  
Women’s History Month and would urge all Californians to  
join in the celebration of International Women’s Day on  
March 8, 1995.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California women of every race, class, and  
2 ethnic background who have settled this great state have  
3 endured rigors whether they were a servant, a teacher,  
4 or an artisan’s wife; each faced the common task of  
5 achieving survival for themselves or their families in a  
6 land that yielded nothing easily; toiling from sunup to  
7 sundown, these women played a pivotal role in shaping  
8 the economic, cultural, and social fabric of our state; and  
9 WHEREAS, At the time gold was discovered in Sutter’s  
10 Creek, women were entering the labor force in growing  
11 numbers as clerks, shoe workers, waitresses, printers,  
12 glass packers, domestics, textile workers, farmworkers,  
13 tailoresses, school teachers, writers, rubber workers,  
14 agents, music teachers, milliners, factory operatives of

1 many kinds, type dressers, eyelet makers, hatters, tack  
2 makers, and squib makers, and became part of the labor  
3 movement in California as well as the United States,  
4 working both inside and outside of the home; and

5 WHEREAS, Women were among the workers in el  
6 Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles sobre el Rio de la  
7 Porciuncula; and

8 WHEREAS, August 26, 1995, marks the 75th  
9 anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States, a  
10 campaign that lasted over 72 years, fought by thousands  
11 of women who circulated countless petitions and gave  
12 speeches in churches, convention halls, meeting houses,  
13 and on street corners, before winning ratification of the  
14 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution on  
15 August 20, 1920, giving women the right to vote; and

16 WHEREAS, Women have been leaders in every  
17 movement for progressive social change, including their  
18 own suffrage movement, the fight for emancipation, the  
19 struggle to organize labor unions, and the civil rights  
20 movement; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite these contributions, the role of  
22 American women in history has been consistently  
23 overlooked and undervalued; and

24 WHEREAS, The celebration of Women's History  
25 Month will provide an opportunity for schools and  
26 communities to focus attention on the historical role and  
27 accomplishments of the women of California and the  
28 United States, and for students, in particular, to benefit  
29 from an awareness of these contributions; and

30 WHEREAS, Women's History Month will include  
31 International Women's Day on March 8, originally  
32 proclaimed in 1910 to recognize and commemorate the  
33 valuable contributions women have made to the labor  
34 movement in improving working conditions; and

35 WHEREAS, The observance of Women's History Week  
36 was initiated by the Sonoma County Commission on the  
37 Status of Women in 1978, a celebration which evolved  
38 into Women's History Month, commemorated  
39 throughout the nation by schools, historians, and  
40 community groups; and



1 WHEREAS, The achievements of women who have  
2 gone before us will enable contemporary women and  
3 men to create tomorrow's history by working toward an  
4 end to physical and sexual violence against women,  
5 discrimination in employment, the "feminization of  
6 poverty," and by advocating the full participation of  
7 women in political life at the local, state, and national  
8 level; and

9 WHEREAS, The story of the women's rights  
10 movement deserves telling because of the significance  
11 and scope of women's role in making history and shaping  
12 the cultural and societal makeup of California and the  
13 United States, and because it is a rich part of our common  
14 heritage, a story of gallantry and devotion to the belief  
15 that the opportunity for complete human dignity should  
16 not be denied to one-half of the state and the nation; and

17 WHEREAS, The 1995 theme for Women's History  
18 Month is "Women's History: Promises to Keep," inviting  
19 all Californians to remember the many roles women have  
20 played in the transformation of our state and our nation,  
21 the battles fought and won in the past as well those we  
22 must continue to fight to ensure women's rightful place  
23 in history, and to pass on the promise of equality to  
24 women and men of the future through the evolution of  
25 women's roles in a dramatically changing society; now,  
26 therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*  
28 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature of the  
29 State of California takes pleasure in joining the California  
30 Commission on the Status of Women, the Sonoma County  
31 Commission on the Status of Women, the Los Angeles  
32 County Commission for Women, and other city, county,  
33 and community commissions for women in California, in  
34 honoring the contributions of women, and proclaims the  
35 month of March 1995 as Women's History Month; and be  
36 it further

37 *Resolved,* That the Legislature of the State of California  
38 urges all Californians to join in the celebration of  
39 International Women's Day on March 8, 1995; and be it  
40 further



1 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit  
2 copies of this resolution to the Chair of the California  
3 Commission on the Status of Women and the Chair of the  
4 Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women for  
5 distribution to appropriate organizations.

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