

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING NEW MEXICO FEMALE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DECLARING  
3 MARCH 8, 2013 "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4  
5 WHEREAS, international women's day, March 8, has been  
6 celebrated around the world since 1909 and in the United  
7 States since 1977; and

8 WHEREAS, this year's international women's day theme is  
9 "The Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum"; and

10 WHEREAS, on that day, thousands of events inspiring  
11 women and celebrating their achievements will be held  
12 throughout the world; and

13 WHEREAS, the first Hispanic female legislators in the  
14 United States served in New Mexico's territorial legislature,  
15 beginning in 1895; and

16 WHEREAS, following New Mexico's statehood in 1912,  
17 Representative Bertha Paxton became the first woman elected  
18 to the New Mexico legislature in 1923; and

19 WHEREAS, Soledad Chacon, whose secretarial term ran from  
20 1923 through 1926, was New Mexico's first female secretary of  
21 state and the first female acting governor in the  
22 United States; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1925, Louise Coe became the first woman  
24 elected to the New Mexico senate and, in 1935, became the  
25 first female senate pro tempore in New Mexico and in the

1 United States; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico Representatives Fedelina Gallegos  
3 and Porfirria Hidalgo Saiz, who both served from 1931 to  
4 1932, were the first Hispanic female legislators in the  
5 United States; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1941, New Mexico Representative Concha Ortiz  
7 y Pino became the first female majority whip in the  
8 United States; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1947, Georgia Lee Witt Lusk of New Mexico's  
10 first district became the first woman from New Mexico to  
11 serve in the United States house of representatives; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1959, Virginia Klinekole became the first  
13 female president of the Mescalero Apache Tribe; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1972, Consuelo Jaramillo Kitzes Burrell  
15 became New Mexico's first Hispanic female state senator; and

16 WHEREAS, Pauline Eisenstadt became the first woman to  
17 serve in both New Mexico legislative chambers, having served  
18 in the house of representatives from 1985 to 1992 and in the  
19 senate from 1997 to 2000; and

20 WHEREAS, Lynda Morgan Lovejoy, who became the first  
21 Native American woman in the New Mexico house of  
22 representatives in 1989, later served in the New Mexico  
23 senate and is the first Native American woman to serve in  
24 both chambers; and

25 WHEREAS, Debbie Jaramillo became the first female mayor

1 of the city of Santa Fe in 1994; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Sheryl Williams Stapleton became  
3 the first African American woman to serve in the New Mexico  
4 house of representatives in 1995; and

5 WHEREAS, Gloria Tristani, who in 1997 was appointed to  
6 the federal communications commission, became the first  
7 Hispanic woman elected to the state corporation commission in  
8 1995; and

9 WHEREAS, Mary Jane M. Garcia became the New Mexico  
10 senate's first Hispanic female majority whip in 1996; and

11 WHEREAS, Patricia Madrid became New Mexico's first  
12 female attorney general in 1998; and

13 WHEREAS, Heather Wilson, from New Mexico's first  
14 district, became the first female veteran in the  
15 United States house of representatives in 1998; and

16 WHEREAS, Diane Denish became New Mexico's first female  
17 lieutenant governor, having served two terms from 2003 to  
18 2011; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2011, Susana Martinez became the first  
20 female and Hispanic governor in New Mexico and in the  
21 United States; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2013, Michelle Lujan Grisham, from  
23 New Mexico's first district, became the first Hispanic woman  
24 in the United States house of representatives; and

25 WHEREAS, one hundred twenty women have served in the

1 New Mexico house of representatives and twenty-eight women  
2 have served in the senate; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico is distinguished for having many  
4 political female "firsts";

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all New Mexico women who have been  
7 elected to and served in political office be honored; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Friday, March 8, 2013, be  
9 recognized as "International Women's Day" in the senate; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the commission on the status of women, the  
12 New Mexico women's forum, the state historian and the cultural  
13 affairs department.

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