

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Turner-Ford, Jackson To: Rules
(11th), Blackmon, Barnett, Blackwell, Burton,
Caughman, Dearing, Frazier, Horhn, Jackson
(32nd), McMahan, Norwood, Simmons (12th)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 545

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MARCH 2018 AS "WOMEN'S
2 HISTORY MONTH IN MISSISSIPPI" WITH ITS THEME "NEVERTHELESS SHE
3 PERSISTED: HONORING WOMEN WHO FIGHT ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION
4 AGAINST WOMEN," CELEBRATING THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S
5 HISTORY MOVEMENT.

6 WHEREAS, March 2018 is National Women's History Month with
7 its theme "Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight
8 All Forms of Discrimination Against Women." The 2018 National
9 Women's History theme presents the opportunity to honor women who
10 have shaped America's history and its future through their
11 tireless commitment to ending discrimination against women and
12 girls. From spearheading legislation against segregation to
13 leading the Reproductive Justice Movement, our 2018 honorees are
14 dismantling the structural, cultural, and legal forms of
15 discrimination that for too long have plagued American women; and

16 WHEREAS, the 2018 Women's History Honorees:

17 • **Susan Burton:** Ms. Burton is Founder and Executive
18 Director of A New Way of Life Re-Entry Project. Her nonprofit
19 provides women ex-offenders a home and helps them stay drug-free,



20 find work, and reunite with family. The organization has provided
21 direct service to over 1,000 women. Ms. Burton was inspired to
22 start the organization after serving multiple drug sentences and
23 turning her life around;

24 • **Margaret Dunkle:** Ms. Dunkle played a key role in the
25 implementation of Title IX, guaranteeing equal opportunity to
26 women and girls in education. Her groundbreaking 1974 report
27 documenting discrimination against female athletes became the
28 blueprint for the Title IX regulations on athletics. In 1975, Ms.
29 Dunkle became the first Chair of the National Coalition for Women
30 and Girls in Education;

31 • **Geraldine Ferraro (1935-2011):** Ms. Ferraro was a
32 politician, three-term Congresswoman (D N.Y. 1979-1985), and first
33 woman major party candidate for Vice President (1984). President
34 Clinton appointed her U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
35 Commission on Human Rights where she served from 1993-1996. She
36 also served as Vice Chair of the U.S. Delegation to the Fourth
37 World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995);

38 • **Roma Guy:** Guy is a leading LGBT and women's rights
39 activist. She co-founded multiple organizations, including the
40 Women's Building, La Casa de las Madres, SF Women Against Rape,
41 and the Women's Foundation of California. Ms. Guy was one of the
42 LGBT activists featured in the 2017 miniseries *When We Rise*. She
43 is also an advocate for women's access to health care;



44 • **Saru Jayaraman:** Jayaraman is Co-Founder and Co-Director
45 of the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC United) and
46 Director of the Food Labor Research Center at University of
47 California, Berkeley. She is a leading advocate for restaurant
48 workers, fighting for guaranteed sick and safe leave and an end to
49 the two-tiered minimum wage (a victory ROC has already won in
50 seven states);

51 • **Christina Jimenez:** Jimenez is Executive Director and
52 Co-Founder of United We Dream (UWD), the largest immigrant
53 youth-led organization in the country. She was part of the team
54 that led to the historic victory of the Deferred Action for
55 Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in 2012. In 2017 Jimenez was
56 awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship "Genius Grant";

57 • **Marty Langelan:** Langelan is a leader in the global effort
58 to end gender-based violence and is an expert in nonviolent
59 intervention methods; her intervention toolkits are now used
60 around the world. She pioneered feminist self-defense training,
61 organized the first D.C. city-wide campaign on street harassment,
62 and developed a comprehensive program for ending harassment on
63 public transit;

64 • **Pat Maginnis:** Maginnis is considered the first abortion
65 rights activist in the U.S. She founded the Society for Humane
66 Abortion in 1962 and the Association to Repeal Abortion Laws (the
67 predecessor to NARAL) in 1966. She and two colleagues (known as
68 the Army of Three) illegally mailed kits and information to women



69 seeking abortions. At age 89, Ms. Maginnis remains politically
70 active;

71 • **Arlene Mayerson:** Mayerson is Directing Attorney of the
72 Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF). She has
73 been a leading force behind groundbreaking legislation, including
74 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Handicapped
75 Children's Protection Act. Ms. Mayerson has contributed to many
76 key disability rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court;

77 • **Jill Moss Greenberg:** Moss Greenberg is a lifelong
78 feminist activist, committed to ending social and educational
79 inequity. She served as National Director of the National
80 Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) where she
81 spearheaded efforts to address intersecting forms of
82 discrimination. Ms. Moss Greenberg also served as Founding
83 Executive Director of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center;

84 • **Pauli Murray (1910-1985):** Murray was a groundbreaking
85 women's rights and Civil Rights Activist and Attorney. She coined
86 the term "Jane Crow," articulating the combined sexism and racism
87 faced by African-American women. Ms. Murray served on the
88 Presidential Commission on the Status of Women and was a
89 Co-Founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). In 1977,
90 Murray became the first black woman to be ordained as an Episcopal
91 Priest and she was among the first group of women to become
92 Priests in that church;



93 • **Elizabeth Peratrovich (Kaaxal-gat) (1911-1958):**
94 Peratrovich was a Civil Rights Activist on behalf of Alaska
95 Natives. She was a leader in the Alaska Native Sisterhood and led
96 the fight against the pervasive discrimination and segregation
97 faced by her community. Ms. Peratrovich is credited as the
98 leading force behind passage of the Alaska territory's
99 Anti-Discrimination Act in 1945, the first such law in the U.S.;

100 • **Loretta Ross:** Ms. Ross is a Feminist Activist and Leader
101 in the Reproductive Justice Movement. She was the Co-Founder and
102 Executive Director of the National Center for Human Rights
103 Education and Co-Founder and National Coordinator for the Sister
104 Song Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective. In the
105 1970s, Ms. Ross was one of the first African-American women to
106 direct a rape crisis center;

107 • **Angelica Salas:** Salas is Executive Director of the
108 Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) and
109 is a leading spokesperson for federal immigration policy reform.
110 In California, she helped win in-state tuition for undocumented
111 students and established day labor job centers that have become a
112 national model. Ms. Salas is a coalition builder, connecting
113 diverse groups at the state and national level;

114 • **Linda Spoonster Schwartz:** Ms. Schwartz is a Vietnam
115 Veteran and Activist for the rights of women veterans, testifying
116 more than 24 times to Congress on women veterans' issues. She
117 served as Connecticut's Commissioner Commandant of Veterans



118 Affairs and was appointed by President Obama to serve as Assistant
119 Secretary of Veteran Affairs for Policy and Planning; and

120 WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a
121 critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the
122 life of the nation by constituting a significant portion of the
123 labor force working inside and outside of the home. American
124 women have played a unique role throughout the history of the
125 nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of
126 the nation. American women were particularly important in the
127 establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural
128 institutions in our nation; and

129 WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic
130 background have made historic contributions to the growth and
131 strength of our nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways.
132 Women's history becomes a story of inspiration and hope, a story
133 of courage and tenacity, and a story of possibility and purpose.
134 Women's history is our nation's story. It is the story of how
135 women built communities and inspired and nurtured dreams and how
136 they will continue to do so; and

137 WHEREAS, to emphasize the role of women in our state, the
138 Legislature in 2001 established the Mississippi Commission on the
139 Status of Women to advise and consult with the Legislature and the
140 executive branch on policies affecting the political status and
141 other concerns of women in Mississippi; and it is with great pride



142 that we recognize women who serve as role models in pioneering
143 Mississippi's future:

144 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
145 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
146 we do hereby designate March 2018 as "Women's History Month in
147 Mississippi" with its theme "Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring
148 Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women,"
149 celebrating the 38th Anniversary of the Women's History Movement.

150 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
151 the Mississippi Commission on the Status of Women to observe
152 appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities, and made
153 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

