

2014 -- S 2736

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 8TH, 2014, AS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Goodwin, Sosnowski, Paiva Weed, and Cool
Rumsey

Date Introduced: March 06, 2014

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900's, at a
2 time when women's oppression and inequality was spurring women to become more vocal and
3 active in campaigning for change; and

4 WHEREAS, The first National Women's Day was observed in the United States on
5 February 28, 1909, in honor of the 1908 garment workers' strike in New York City, where women
6 protested and demanded shorter hours, better pay, and voting rights; and

7 WHEREAS, The first countries to honor International Women's Day in 1911 were
8 Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland, where together more than one million women and
9 men attended International Women's Day rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote,
10 hold public office, and to discrimination in general; and

11 WHEREAS, On March 25, 1911, only a week after these international rallies, a
12 disastrous event occurred known as the "Triangle Shirtwaist Fire" which took the lives of more
13 than 140 women in New York City, most of whom were Italian and Jewish immigrants; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1914, on the eve of World War I, International Women's Day became
15 recognized worldwide on March 8th. Since then, March 8th has remained the day on which
16 International Women's Day is celebrated in the Unites States and worldwide, and this year marks
17 the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day; and

18 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has more recently assumed a new, global
19 dimension for women in developed and developing countries alike; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2013, International Women's Day was celebrated by this General
2 Assembly and honored Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed and the other highest ranking women
3 in the three branches of Rhode Island state government; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2014, the Rhode Island International Women's Day celebration will
5 honor:

6 - Former Attorney General Arlene Violet who was the first female Attorney
7 General in the United States;

8 - Lieutenant Colonel Karen Pinch who is the first woman ever to serve on the
9 command staff of the Rhode Island State Police;

10 - Stacey Veroni, Chief of the Criminal Division and the highest ranking woman in
11 the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General; and

12 - The other highest ranking or most senior women in Rhode Island's Police
13 Departments;

14 All of whom work diligently, courageously and honorably to serve, protect, and preserve
15 the peace in our communities; now, therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations is
17 hereby honored to recognize March 8, 2014, as "International Women's Day." We encourage all
18 the citizens of the state to celebrate and pay tribute to the contributions made by women of this
19 and every nation; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-
22 moon.

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