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 FEB 0 1 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 19 AS HAWAII CELEBRATING WOMEN IN PUBLIC OFFICE DAY.

WHEREAS, the month of March is Women's History Month and celebrates the significant contributions women of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds have made to the world; and

WHEREAS, while the twentieth century was a pivotal time of growth for women entering politics, a 2017 study by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University shows that women hold less than twenty percent of seats in the 115th U.S. Congress, twenty-four percent of elective executive offices, and twenty-five percent of seats in state legislatures in the United States; and

WHEREAS, women remain underrepresented in male-dominated fields; thus, providing opportunities to support women in public office is imperative; and

WHEREAS, women play a critical role in the vitality and diversity of our communities and are essential to ensuring Hawaii is well represented; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is ranked as one of the best states in terms of women's representation in elected offices at the state and national level; and

WHEREAS, the recent surge and success of women candidates running for public office in New Jersey and Virginia have created momentum for a movement of women running for office; and

WHEREAS, recognizing women in public office will bring awareness to the fundamental necessity of their work and will inspire other young people to serve their communities; now, therefore,

S.C.R. NO. 24

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body recognizes March 19 as Hawaii Celebrating Women in Public Office Day and calls upon the people of Hawaii to support the success of women in public office and observe every March 19 with appropriate activities, events, and programs; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Hawaii's congressional delegation, and Chair of Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

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