

1 SJR53

2 139343-2

3 By Senators Figures, Fielding, Irons, Brewbaker, Waggoner,
4 Smith, Coleman, Keahey, Singleton, Dunn, Sanders, Allen,
5 Beasley, Beason, Bedford, Blackwell, Brooks, Bussman, Dial,
6 Glover, Holley, Holtzclaw, Marsh, McGill, Orr, Pittman, Reed,
7 Ross, Sanford, Scofield, Smitherman, Taylor, Ward, Whatley,
8 and Williams

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 22-MAR-12

1 SJR53

2

3

4 ENROLLED, SJR53,

5 RECOGNIZING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN MARCH 2012.

6

7 WHEREAS, although women now outnumber men in
8 American colleges nationwide, the reversal of the gender gap
9 is a very recent phenomenon; the fight to learn was a valiant
10 struggle waged by many tenacious women in our country, across
11 years and across cultures; and

12 WHEREAS, after the American Revolution, the notion
13 of education as a safeguard for democracy created
14 opportunities for girls to gain a basic education; and

15 WHEREAS, pioneers of secondary education for young
16 women faced arguments that females were incapable of
17 intellectual development equal to men, or that they would be
18 harmed by striving for it; and

19 WHEREAS, this year, the theme of Women's History
20 Month is "Women's Education -- Women's Empowerment"; and

21 WHEREAS, women today currently earn 41 percent of
22 Ph.D.s in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
23 fields, but make up only 28 percent of tenure-track faculty in
24 those fields; and

1 WHEREAS, on June 18, 1983, NASA launched the
2 Challenger for a six-day mission, and Dr. Sally Ride became
3 the first American woman in space; and

4 WHEREAS, in June 1987, Mae C. Jemison, M.D., who was
5 born in Decatur, Alabama, was selected for the NASA Astronaut
6 program and was the first African-American woman astronaut,
7 part of the crew of the Endeavour; Dr. Jemison was invaluable
8 with her background in both engineering and medical research,
9 along with work in computer programming, nuclear magnetic
10 resonance and spectroscopy, among other areas; and

11 WHEREAS, while we have made great strides toward
12 equality, we cannot rest until our mothers, sisters, and
13 daughters assume their rightful place as full participants in
14 a secure, prosperous, and just society; we must not forget the
15 young women who are still looking up to the sky and reaching
16 for the stars, and we must provide them with the tools they
17 need to fulfil their dreams by supporting educational
18 initiatives that will make a difference; and

19 WHEREAS, during Women's History Month, we are called
20 to remember and honor the pioneering legacy of our
21 grandmothers and great-grandmothers as revealed not only in
22 our museums and history books, but also in the fierce
23 determination and limitless potential of our daughters and
24 granddaughters; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we highlight the important role women have played in shaping our great state and nation, as we make headway on other crucial issues of our time, and we remember the courageous vision championed by women of past generations, as we are inspired to defend the dreams and opportunities of those to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be provided for appropriate presentation and display during the observance of Women's History Month in March 2012.

1

2

3

4

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

5

6

Speaker of the House of Representatives

7

SJR53

8

Senate 22-MAR-12

9

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

10

11

12

13

14

15

Patrick Harris
Secretary

16

House of Representatives

17

Adopted: 05-APR-12

18

19

20

By: Senators Figures and Fielding