

HOUSE BILL 88

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2000 Regular Session  
0lr0680

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegates Greenip, Conroy, Hubers, Rosso, Pitkin, Love, Frush, Cryor,  
Eckardt, DeCarlo, Stern, and Hecht**

Requested: October 14, 1999

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2000

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government - Commemorative Months - Women's History Month**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to proclaim the month of March each year  
4 to be "Women's History Month".

5 BY adding to

6 Article - State Government

7 Section 13-501 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5. Commemorative  
8 Months"

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (1999 Replacement Volume)

11 **Preamble**

12 WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have  
13 made historic contributions to the growth and strength of the State in countless and  
14 unrecorded ways; and

15 WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical  
16 economic, social, and cultural role in every sphere of life in the State by constituting  
17 a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

18 WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a significant  
19 role in protecting and preserving the State's environmental resources; and

20 WHEREAS, Despite these contributions, the role of American women in history  
21 has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in literature and the teaching, and  
22 study of American history; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1981, the United States Congress first designated the week of  
24 March 7, 1982, as Women's History Week; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1987, the United States Congress approved the National  
2 Women's History Month Resolution to expand the national celebration of women's  
3 history to the entire month of March; and

4 WHEREAS, Since then, the United States Congress has annually approved this  
5 Resolution with bipartisan support, and the President of the United States has  
6 annually proclaimed March as Women's History Month; and

7 WHEREAS, Advocates, parents, and community organizations in thousands of  
8 American communities have acknowledged National Women's History Month as a  
9 focus of celebration; and

10 WHEREAS, No month is set aside in the State to observe and honor women's  
11 historical contributions to the State; now, therefore,

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - State Government**

15 **SUBTITLE 5. COMMEMORATIVE MONTHS.**

16 13-501.

17 (A) IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTIONS THAT WOMEN  
18 HAVE MADE TO THE STATE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF  
19 MARCH EACH YEAR AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

20 (B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL  
21 ORGANIZATIONS TO OBSERVE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROPERLY WITH  
22 APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2000.