

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the women of the Legislature of Louisiana on the occasion of Women's History Month.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize the women of the Legislature of Louisiana for their significant contributions to the state and its citizens and to commend them on the occasion of Women's History Month; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has seen one hundred seven distinguished women serve as members of the House and Senate since 1936; and

WHEREAS, Doris Lindsey Holland Rhodes became the first woman to serve in the state legislature when she was elected to fill her late husband's seat in the Senate in 1936; in 1940, she and Beatrice Hawthorne Moore became the first women to serve in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Mae Taylor served as a member of the House of Representatives from 1971 to 1976, and she was the first Black woman elected to the state legislature; and

WHEREAS, Diana E. Bajoie was the second Black woman and first single woman elected to the legislature; she served the House from 1976 to 1991 and the Senate from 1991 to 2008, and she was the first female president pro tempore in Senate history; and

WHEREAS, Louise Brazzel Johnson served the House from 1972 to 1976 and was the first woman to serve on the House Committee on Appropriations under the ballot system; and

WHEREAS, Mary L. Landrieu served the House from 1980 to 1988 and was later elected to the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco was a member of the House from 1984 to 1988 and served as the 54th governor of Louisiana from 2004 to 2008, during which she helped guide the state through the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Jalila Jefferson-Bullock served the House from 2004 to 2008 and was the first representative to give birth during session; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Weston Broome served the House from 1992 to 2004 and became the first woman speaker pro tempore; she served the Senate from 2005 to 2016 and was the president pro tempore from 2008 to 2016; she later served as the mayor-president of Baton Rouge from 2017 to 2025; and

WHEREAS, thirty-four Louisiana women currently serve in the Legislature of Louisiana and make up the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus; of those women, twenty-nine serve as representatives and five serve as senators; Senator Beth Mizell chairs the caucus and Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson and Senator Katrina Jackson-Andrews serve as vice chairs; and

WHEREAS, past and present women of the Legislature of Louisiana have been powerful voices for women throughout the state, and they are most deserving of the highest recognition for their historic roles as trailblazers and community leaders.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the women of the Legislature of Louisiana on the occasion of Women's History Month and does hereby express enduring appreciation to women legislators for their immeasurable contributions to the state and its citizens.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE