

## 1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 106

1       **Relating to:** urging all Wisconsinites to observe March as “Women’s History  
2           Month”.

3           Whereas, American women of every race, class and ethnic background have  
4       made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless  
5       recorded and unrecorded ways; and

6           Whereas, American women have played and continue to play a critical  
7       economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of life of the Nation by constituting  
8       a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

9           Whereas, American women have played a unique role throughout the history  
10      of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation; and

11          Whereas, American women were particularly important in the establishment  
12      of early charitable, philanthropic, educational and cultural institutions in the  
13      Nation; and

1           Whereas, American women of every race, class and ethnic background served  
2 as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement;  
3 and

4           Whereas, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own  
5 rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the Abolitionist Movement, the  
6 Emancipation Movement, the Industrial Labor Movement, the Civil Rights  
7 Movement and other movements, especially the Peace Movement, which create a  
8 more fair and just society for all; and

9           Whereas, Wisconsin has been blessed with many women who have risen above  
10 stereotypes and who have become the first to achieve notable station, including  
11 Shirley Abrahamson, the first woman to serve on the Wisconsin State Supreme  
12 Court and the first woman chief justice; Belle Case La Follette, the first woman to  
13 graduate from the University of Wisconsin Law School; Katherine Lyall, the first  
14 woman president of the University of Wisconsin System; Vel Phillips, the first Black  
15 constitutional officer in Wisconsin; Dena Smith, the first woman elected to statewide  
16 office in Wisconsin; Rosa A. Smith, the first Black woman to serve as a  
17 superintendent of schools; Donna Shalala, the first woman chancellor of the  
18 University of Wisconsin–Madison; Kathryn Morrison, the first woman elected to the  
19 state senate; Barbara Thompson, the first woman to hold the elective office of state  
20 superintendent of public instruction; and

21           Whereas, Wisconsin women have earned the outstanding achievement of  
22 winning the Pulitzer Prize, including author Edna Ferber for the novel *So Big*, and  
23 author Zona Gale for the novel *Miss Zulu Bett*; and

24           Whereas, Wisconsin women have been national leaders in women's suffrage,  
25 including Kathryn Clarenbach, founder of the National Organization of Women and

