

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-007** 

## RECOGNIZING MARCH 2024 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND MARCH 8, 2024, AS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

**WHEREAS,** in 1910, Washington became the fifth state to enact women's suffrage, and our state's role helped to ignite a campaign resulting in the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920; and

**WHEREAS,** Women's History Week was created in 1978 by the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women to address the virtually untold subject of women's history in K-12 curriculum or in the general public consciousness; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Congress designated the month of March as Women's History Month; and

**WHEREAS,** International Women's Day was chosen as March 8<sup>th</sup>, a day devoted to the worldwide celebration of women's achievements, the recognition of biases against women, and a call to action for equality, equity, inclusion, and justice for women everywhere; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Women's History Alliance (NWHA) designated the 2024 theme for National Women's History Month to be "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion." The theme recognizes women throughout the nation who understand that for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions; and

**WHEREAS,** around the globe, women spend two to ten times more time providing unpaid care for children/elderly family members at home, compared to men. An unequal distribution of caring and household chores is connected to discriminatory social institutions and stereotypes of gender roles, particularly for women of color. Gender inequality in unpaid care work is the missing link in the analysis of gender gaps in labor outcomes, such as labor force participation, wages, cumulative earnings, and job quality; and

WHEREAS, while there has been progress in ensuring equal rights, more can be done to achieve reforms across all segments of our society, economy, and government; and

**WHEREAS,** based on current U.S. Census data, women comprise 49.5 percent of Snohomish County's population and 61 percent of the countywide adult labor force. Thirty-four percent of Snohomish County businesses are women-owned firms;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Snohomish County Council recognizes the month of March as Women's History Month and March 8, 2024, as International Women's Day in Snohomish County. The Council encourages everyone to honor and appreciate the societal contributions of women, acknowledge the value of unpaid care for children and family members, take appropriate steps to ensure equity, and create a future of endless possibilities for all women and girls.

APPROVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Mond Wared Mead

Council Chair

Sam Low

**Sam Low** Councilmember

Strom Peterson Councilmember

Nate Nehring Council Vice-Chair

Megan Dunn

Councilmember

ATTEST:

*Elena Lao, CMC Deputy Clerk of the Council*