

Date of Hearing: June 15, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
ACR 194 (Pacheco) – As Introduced May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Women’s Equality Day.

SUMMARY: Recognizes August 26, 2026, as Women’s Equality Day and its historic importance to women’s rights, including the battle to attain those rights in the past, present, and future. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The first women’s rights convention on July 19, 1848, was called by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott to win equal rights for women and expand the role of women in society, and it was then that the fight for women’s rights came together as an organized effort.
- 2) The addition of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920, secured for women the right to vote, with full enfranchisement of African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American women to take nearly an additional 50 years to be realized.
- 3) The passage of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 barred employment discrimination against women. And, the enactment of Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972 guaranteed equal opportunity for women in all aspects of education.
- 4) Many women have planned, organized, lectured, written, marched, lobbied, canvassed voters, staged parades, become candidates for political office, argued court cases, and more, in order to irrevocably change for the better the world of today’s women and girls.
- 5) Despite the many efforts of policymakers and advocates, both women and men, toward ensuring equality for women, gender inequality persists in many areas, as evidenced by the ongoing struggle for fair pay and equal job opportunities, job training opportunities, access to childcare, family friendly workplaces, and against poverty, especially among women and children.
- 6) Despite important steps to achieve equal access in the workplace and equal access to educational opportunities, women face barriers in education and employment that are not experienced at the same magnitude by men, including the presence of historical male privilege and gender bias; sex discrimination, harassment, and sexual violence in the workplace and on campus; the complications of having caregiving duties in the unpaid economy; and, being undervalued for their work in the paid economy.
- 7) Women are critical to a strong and vibrant California economy and play a pivotal role in spurring economic growth in California. Women’s earnings are still far too low compared to men’s in California, and women are disproportionately employed in jobs that pay the minimum wage. Women are also disproportionately disadvantaged by the stresses of poverty and the constraints of the social services system.

- 8) Ensuring the economic security of all California women and their families will benefit people in all communities who count on public policies to meet their basic needs, earn a decent living, and care for their families.
- 9) The women of the United States have designated August 26 as a symbol of the continued fight for equal rights.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800