PROCLAMATION

MISSOULA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of the United States in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

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

WHEREAS, American women continue to complete the majority of uncompensated domestic work; and

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout history by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the United States; and

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions in country;

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

WHEREAS, American women have served our country courageously in the military; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement and other movements, especially the peace movement, all of which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, a Montana woman, Jeannette Rankin, was the first woman elected to the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Missoula County became the first in the United States to vote for an all-female commission in 1985 when Barbara Evans, Ann Mary Dussault and Janet Stevens served on the board; and

WHEREAS, despite these many contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the literature, teaching and study of American history.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the Missoula Board of County Commissioners, and Jordan Hess, mayor of the City of Missoula, do hereby recognize the month of March 2023, as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

and invite all citizens to observe this month and to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2023, with programs, ceremonies and activities; and to visit www.WomensHistoryMonth.gov and MontanaWomensHistory.org to learn more about the vital contribution of women to our country and state's history.

DATED THIS 2ND DAY OF MARCH 2023

CITY OF MISSOULA

COUNTY OF MISSOULA

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Josh Slotnick, Chair

Juanita Vero, Commissioner