Women’s Leadership Council Resolution
March 3, 2021

WHEREAS, March is Women’s History Month, as declared by both the State of New York and by the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Women’s History Month is a time to recognize not only the historical contributions of women in our society but to also recognize and elevate the contributions women are making every day in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the global coronavirus pandemic upended almost every aspect of our society, and women often bore the heaviest burdens both professionally and in their family life; and

WHEREAS, one in three jobs held by women has been designated essential; and

WHEREAS, according to a New York Times analysis of census data crossed with the federal government’s essential worker guidelines, more than two-thirds of the workers at grocery store checkouts and fast-food counters are women; and

WHEREAS, women make up nearly nine out of 10 nurses and nursing assistants, a majority of respiratory therapists and pharmacists, and an overwhelming majority of pharmacy aides and technicians; and

WHEREAS, these essential workers put their own lives at risk during the height of the pandemic to ensure access to food, medicine and countless other necessities of life that helped carry us through the darkest days of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, millions of female essential workers accomplished this despite the additional family pressures associated with motherhood, including caring for and educating children who were required to stay home as schools and day cares closed; and

WHEREAS, sixty percent of Local Health Departments (LHDs) in New York are led by women; and

WHEREAS, public health officials were the leaders of the local health response to COVID-19 and worked around the clock for the last year to provide the public with reliable information about the virus, administer mass testing and tracing operations, and manage the distribution of vaccines to vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, they did this work at great personal sacrifice, enduring immense personal and professional stress as the public face of necessary, but often unpopular social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, their courage, dedication, and leadership undoubtedly saved countless lives and helped place New York State on a trajectory to recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Association of Counties resolves to observe the month of March as “Women’s History Month” and to hereby honor the contributions of women, past and present, to our state.