

1 **Women’s Leadership Council Resolution**
2 **March 3, 2021**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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