



Legislation Text

File #: Res 0709-2011, **Version:** *

Res. No. 709

Resolution declaring the 8th day of March of every year as International Women’s Day (IWD) in the City of New York.

By Council Members James, Dickens, Dromm, Ferreras, Fidler, Koppell, Koslowitz, Lander, Mark-Viverito, Mendez, Recchia, Van Bramer, Williams, Levin and Koo

Whereas, International Women's Day (IWD) was first observed in 1911, at a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world; and

Whereas, The first celebrations were rooted in issues such as the calls for suffrage, for improvements to women’s working conditions and the right for women to hold public office; and

Whereas, As time passed, IWD also became a mechanism for a peace movement with Russian women demonstrating for “bread and peace” in 1917; and

Whereas, As IWD grew in popularity it continued to be celebrated in many countries around the world as a day when women are recognized for their achievements and solidarity for one another; and

Whereas, In 1975, during International Women’s Year, the United Nations began celebrating International Women’s Day on March 8; and

Whereas, Since that time, each IWD has grown in scope and is even considered a public holiday in some countries; and

Whereas, Previous IWD themes have included issues such as equal rights, investing in women’s and girls’ growth and development, calls to cease impunity for violent acts against women and girls, and recognizing women and the peace process; and

Whereas, Despite the gains made by women since 1911, there are still many women worldwide living in

poverty without access to proper healthcare or education; and

Whereas, Although, there have been great achievements by women since the first celebration of IWD, such as numerous women serving in elective offices and running large corporations, there are still far too many women confronting violence, including abuse, rape and domestic violence; and

Whereas, IWD is marked worldwide as a day to honor women, celebrate their achievements, unite them in their struggles and give voices to those who may not otherwise be heard; and

Whereas, March 8, 2011 marked the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and New York City should add its voice to formally acknowledge this occasion; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York declares the 8th day of March of every year as International Women's Day (IWD) in the City of New York.

JP
LS 916
3/17/11