

**National Federation of Democratic Women
Resolution Encouraging Women to Run for Elected Office**

WHEREAS, since the 2016 Election, women in record numbers are expressing an interest in running for office; and

WHEREAS, women currently make up 50.8% of the population of the United States but only 19.4% of the US Congress; and

WHEREAS, women make up an average of 50.6% of the population of each state, but only 24% of Statewide Executive offices; and

WHEREAS, women govern with a collaborative style that fosters communication and cooperation, reaching consensus and finding common ground; and

WHEREAS, women leaders value responsiveness to their constituents, seek out and accept input from experts to find solutions to issues facing them, particularly in areas such as the economy, education, reproductive healthcare, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, when women run for elected office, they are equally likely to win as their male counterparts, and are as successful as men at raising the funds to do so; and

WHEREAS, women are less likely to be recruited to run for office, less likely to feel that they are qualified to run for office, and less likely to show a willingness to run for office at any point in their future.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The National Federation of Democratic Women enthusiastically encourages Democratic women to run for elected office across the nation at the local, state, and national levels, not only to serve in elected office, but to set an example for generations of women leaders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The National Federation of Democratic Women calls on its members to stand ready to support those women who do step forward as candidates.

Submitted by NFDW Legislative Comm. May 1, 2017. Adopted by NFDW June 10, 2017