## Resolution

ORDER NO. 2018-0335

**DATE: March 20, 2018** 

STATE OF TEXAS

**COUNTY OF DALLAS §** 



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1 and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4 the following Resolution was adopted:

- WHEREAS, Women's History Month has its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed a public law which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Public Law. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month;" and
- WHEREAS Women have, since the origins of this country, fought for equality in education, career, wages, voting and a plethora of other inalienable rights. We continue to make strides in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, the Arts, and Legislative Spaces. Despite our advances, we must also realize how far we have left to go. Only 20% of the Texas State Legislature is female and IGNITE, among many organizations, is working to change that; and
- WHEREAS, IGNITE launched in Texas in 2011 builds on the legacy of the women who have fought for equality. IGNITE carries that torch forward and has become a country-wide movement of young women who are ready and eager to become the next generation of political leaders. They are working in 24 high schools and 22 colleges and universities across Texas, hosting 14 groups in 6<sup>th</sup> though 12 grade schools and 6 colleges in Dallas County alone; and
- WHEREAS, IGNITE's 50-hour high school curriculum trains young women to understand how government works, why it matters, and how to analyze the policy issues that impact lives. Trainees meet with female elected officials and candidates from their communities allowing them to become role models for success. Throughout this program of rigorous self and community exploration, young women ultimately define their call to service and learn how to become the next generation of civic and political leaders; and
- WHEREAS, One example of innovative and youthful activity is the IGNITE Chapter at Skyline High School. Chapter members give back to their community in a variety of capacities including campaign volunteers, election judges, public interns, voter registration drives. This chapter also started a program for the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) called the Menstrual Equity Campaign. This project gives free female hygiene products to all junior high school and high school girls in DISD.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby honor IGNITE for their vision and passion about training young women to be the future leaders of Dallas County and beyond. IGNITE is the embodiment of what women throughout history have fought for.

**DONE IN OPEN COURT** on this the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, 2018.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District

Mike Cantrell, District

John Wiley Price, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4