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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. _____

Recognizing violence against women in politics as a global phenomenon and supporting women's full and equal participation in political life.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. TLAIB submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Recognizing violence against women in politics as a global phenomenon and supporting women's full and equal participation in political life.

Whereas women have been on the front lines of social justice movements and civic engagement in the United States and around the world;

Whereas women remain significantly underrepresented in politics across the globe, comprising approximately 27 percent of all legislators worldwide;

Whereas women remain underrepresented at every level of government in the United States, including the 119th United States Congress, where women make up 28 per-

cent of its members, yet account for approximately half of the United States population;

Whereas the presence of women in political institutions, including women officeholders and staff with diverse racial, ethnic, religious, sexual, and class identities, has increased significantly in the United States in recent years;

Whereas women's participation in political life has expanded in recent decades, including the increased representation of women from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, sexual, socioeconomic, and disability identities;

Whereas violence against women in politics is a distinct form of gender-based violence that seeks to intimidate, silence, discredit, exclude, or otherwise undermine women because of their political participation;

Whereas violence against women in politics occurs at every stage of political participation, including when women engage in political and civic movements, run for office, serve as elected officials, or work in any level of government;

Whereas violence against women in politics takes many forms, including misogynistic attacks, sexual harassment and violence, stalking, intimidation, death threats, and economic, psychological, or physical violence, and assassination, meant to discourage women from participating or engaging fully in politics;

Whereas violence against women in politics occurs both in person and online, including through threats, targeted harassment, disinformation, doxxing, nonconsensual sharing or fabrication of intimate images, and other forms of technology-facilitated gender-based violence;

Whereas emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, may further intensify violence against women in politics, including through deepfakes and generative artificial intelligence;

Whereas research shows that violence against women in politics is a well-documented global phenomenon;

Whereas a 2016 Inter-Parliamentary Union survey of women parliamentarians from 39 countries found that 81.8 percent of respondents were subjected to psychological violence, 44.4 percent of whom received threats of death, rape, beatings, or abduction during their parliamentary terms, including threats to kidnap or kill their children;

Whereas findings from a 2017 survey of United States mayors conducted by 6 political scientists revealed that women are more likely than their male counterparts to experience physical and psychological abuse;

Whereas a 2018 report from an expert group meeting convened by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women indicated that women of color and women of marginalized communities are disproportionately affected by violence against women in politics worldwide;

Whereas a 2024 study by the Brennan Center for Justice, based on surveys with more than 1,700 State and local officeholders across all 50 states, found that women were three to four times as likely as men to experience abuse targeting their gender, and that women serving in State legislatures were four times as likely as men to experience abuse of a sexual nature;

Whereas the Brennan Center study further found that women, particularly women of color, experienced disproportionate and compounded forms of abuse;

Whereas approximately half of women surveyed by the Brennan Center report being less willing to run for reelection or seek higher office because of abuse, demonstrating that violence and intimidation can directly affect women's ability and willingness to participate in political life;

Whereas women make up 80 percent of election workers in the United States, and report higher levels of threats and harassment than their male counterparts;

Whereas a 2018 Amnesty International report revealed the intersectional nature of online, gender-based violence by highlighting the experiences of women of color, women from ethnic and religious minorities, women with disabilities, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women, and nonbinary individuals;

Whereas research, including a 2019 report from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, has shown that women candidates and other politically involved women are more likely than men to experience abuse and harassment on social media platforms;

Whereas a 2021 study published by the Wilson Center observed that gendered and sexualized narratives were potent weapons in disinformation campaigns targeting women leaders in the United States and abroad;

Whereas a 2025 United Nations Women's global study found that 72 percent of respondents that identify as human rights defenders and activists personally experienced online violence in the course of their work;

Whereas a 2023 United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization report found that the rise of generative AI threatened to intensify the risks associated with online violence experienced by women in politics;

Whereas there have been documented instances of violence against women in the United States Congress, including shootings, assault, sexual harassment, nonconsensual distribution of intimate visual depictions, death threats, and sexist verbal attacks;

Whereas the assassinations of women engaged in political life in the United States and around the world underscore the deadly risks faced by women in public service and political activism;

Whereas violence against women in politics can undermine the equal exercise of political participation, freedom of expression, and peaceful assembly;

Whereas the safety and equal participation of women in political life are essential to democracy and to ensuring that political institutions reflect the communities they serve; and

Whereas preventing violence against women in politics requires comprehensive solutions that address both individual acts of violence and the institutional conditions that allow abuse to persist: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women in political life;

(2) recognizes violence against women in politics as a distinct form of gender-based violence that

seeks to undermine women's participation in political life;

(3) recognizes that violence against women in politics is a global phenomenon that occurs both in person and online and disproportionately affects women;

(4) supports efforts to strengthen research and data collection on the prevalence and consequences of violence against women in politics in the United States and around the world;

(5) urges the United States Government to adopt policies that promote women's political participation and mitigate violence against women in politics, both in person and online; and

(6) affirms that women should be able to participate in political life without fear of violence, harassment, intimidation, or retaliation.