



## Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Honors Womens History Month

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### REP. TOM EMMER:

March is Women's History Month, a time when we recognize the important contributions from women to our society and to our collective history. I'm honored to have so many strong women surrounding me throughout my life. My beautiful wife Jackie and my daughter Katie, my mom and my mother-in-law, and my sister Bridget who passed away in 2000, along with several women who I've had the privilege of working with side-by-side over the years, both colleagues and staff. I can't imagine these bright women being held back from the chance to pursue their dreams and reach their goals simply because they're women. Yet around the world, women are denied the right to an education, to own property, and in many cases, the right to life. There are so many great Minnesota women to have as a role model, women who have broken down barriers and paved the way for young women like my daughter to feel confident and step up as leaders. Women like Anne Bancroft, the first woman to reach the North Pole by sled and on foot. Like Marvell Cook, the first African-American woman to work at a mainstream white-owned newspaper. Like the women who represent or have represented Minnesota in the halls of Congress, Koya Knudsen, Amy Klobuchar, Betty McCollum, and my predecessor, Michelle Bachman. Here in the U.S. Capitol, the state of Minnesota chose to honor the late U of M professor Maria Sanford as one of our two state statues. Sanford, called the best-loved woman of the North Star State, was one of the first women named to a college professorship, and she played a major role in education reform in our beloved state. From inventors to artists and actresses to astronauts, these strong individuals inspire and innovate and serve as a reminder that women's history is America's history. Our acknowledgment of this cannot be relegated to just one month.

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