NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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ESSAY CONTEST SPONSORED BY WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Students to Discuss Women's Contributions to Louisiana

Today, 525 middle and high schools were notified by e-mail that the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus is sponsoring an essay contest during March, National Women h History Month, on Women's Contributions to Louisiana History, Government and Politics.

Each school received a bulletin board flier, contest rules and a copy of the judging procedures by e-mail.

Middle and high school students are encouraged to examine the contributions women have made and continue to make to Louisiana and its communities. Each school was asked to select its best two entries and to forward them by e-mail to the chairperson of the Essay Contest Committee by Friday, March 14, 2003. Entries should be sent to Rep. Shirley Bowler, larep078@legis.state.la.us.

The essays must be 750 to 1000 words in length and cover a manageable topic related to the contest theme.

Winners will be notified in April. In May, 20 students will be honored in the House Chamber at the Louisiana State Capitol Baton Rouge. Winners will each receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus.

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All entries should be submitted by e-mail; however, students who do not have access to e-mail may submit entries by U. S. mail to Rep. Bowler, 1939 Hickory Avenue, Suite 203, Harahan, LA 70123.

Middle and high schools which did not receive the e-mailed materials and wish to participate are asked to contact Rep. Shirley Bowler, 504/738-1922 or the office of the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus, 225/342-0335, to obtain copies of the bulletin board flier, contest rules and judging procedures. For more information about the contest you may also visit the Women's Caucus website at http://house.legis.state.la.us/llwc/llwc.htm