

(WASHINGTON) - ---- Congressman Allen West (FL-22) released this statement on the passing of Geraldine Ferraro:

"As we celebrate Women's History Month, we mourn the loss of Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman Vice Presidential Candidate, a trailblazer and pioneer for women in national politics.

When Congresswoman Ferraro served in the United States Congress, there were only 22 female Members of the United States House of Representatives and two in the United States Senate. Today, there are 74 women in the House and 17 in the Senate.

Geraldine Ferraro paved the path for these women in Congress and the hundreds and hundreds who now serve as state legislators, cabinet secretaries, Lieutenant Governors and Governors throughout our nation. Geraldine Ferraro shattered the political barrier for women so that Hillary Rodham Clinton and Sarah Palin could seek the highest offices in our republic.

My family sends our condolences to Geraldine Ferraro's family. She will always be remembered for having been chosen to be the first woman to run as a candidate for Vice President and for being an inspiration for all women – Democratic, Republican and Independent - in the United States of America. "

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