General Information

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Description

Ella Grasso of Connecticut is the first woman governor in U.S. history whose husband didn’t hold the job before she took office. When Grasso takes office in 1975, she makes no mention of a gender gap in her acceptance speech.

Keywords

Ella Grasso, Connecticut, First Woman, Governor

Citation

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CHICAGO MANUAL OF STYLE

Transcript
Ella Grasso Takes Office
JOHN CHANCELLOR, anchor: There was an important first today in American political history, the first woman governor whose husband didn’t hold the job before she did took office. She is Ella Grasso of Connecticut, a democrat. Betty Rollins describes the new governors big day. BETTY ROLLINS, reporting: In keeping with her own style Mrs. Grasso got a warm low-key, small town send off from her neighbors in Winterlocks this morning, also in her style she rejected a limousine in favor of a train ride to her inauguration. Of course a lot of a lot of elected officials are doing that sort of thing this year. Mrs. Grasso’s arrival at Hartford, the state capital, was as folksy as her departure. When she declined a motorcade and decided to walk to lunch with the outgoing governor. The Governor Elect Grasso came here to the statehouse, were she was sworn in for a joint legislative session as Governor Grasso. Judge: And will you faithfully discharge the duties of governor of the state of Connecticut, to the best of your abilities, so help you God. Gov. ELLA GRASSO, Connecticut: So help me god. ROLLINS: In her address Mrs. Grasso alluded not at all to her membership to the female sex. Instead she talked hoax and of Connecticut’s problems. GRASSO: The state of her state is in disarray. The financial condition for state government is unsound. A balanced budget and an operating surplus simply do not exist. ROLLINS: Mrs. Grasso emphasized her intention to balance the budget without breaking her campaign promise of no income tax. With a budget deficit of about 200,000 million dollars, accomplishing that aim will be a feat for a member of any sex. Betty Rollins, NBC News, Hartford, Connecticut.