



HR0881

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1987, Congress declared March as "Women's
3 History Month" to acknowledge the important role women have
4 played in shaping America; and

5 WHEREAS, Although women constitute a majority of the
6 nation's population, their achievements and contributions are
7 underrepresented in museums and memorials; and

8 WHEREAS, Only 10% of the people identified in a recent
9 survey of 18 history textbooks were women; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1999, the President's Commission on the
11 Celebration of Women in American History called for a women's
12 history museum to be established on The National Mall in
13 Washington, D.C.; and

14 WHEREAS, The National Women's History Museum, founded in
15 1996, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, educational organization
16 dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the
17 diverse historic contributions of women and integrating the
18 heritage of women fully into this nation's history; and

19 WHEREAS, The National Women's History Museum seeks a site
20 on or close to the National Mall and in close proximity to the

1 White House and the U.S. Capitol Building; and

2 WHEREAS, The National Women's History Museum has
3 identified federally owned property for sale near the National
4 Mall, and 2 congressional bills, the National Women's History
5 Act of 2011, sponsored by Representative Maloney in the House
6 of Representatives as H.R. 1269 and Senator Collins in the
7 Senate as S.80, and the National Women's History Museum and
8 Federal Facilities Consolidation Act of 2011, sponsored in the
9 House of Representatives by Representative Mica as H.R. 2844
10 and in the Senate by Senator Boozman as S.1870, are currently
11 pending in Congress; and

12 WHEREAS, There are museums dedicated to flight, postage
13 stamps, buildings, and many other areas of interest but not to
14 women, and yet women comprise 51% of the nation's population;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The National Women's History Museum will showcase
17 the full history of women in the United States and the
18 contributions they have made and continue to make in the
19 marketplace, arts and sciences, government, entertainment,
20 education, home, and community; and

21 WHEREAS, A coalition of 43 women's organizations
22 representing eight million women, which includes the National

1 Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL), supports the efforts
2 of the National Women's History Museum to establish a permanent
3 residence near the National Mall, the most prominent location
4 for museums to be situated in the nation's capital; therefore,
5 be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we urge Congress to enact legislation authorizing the federal
9 government to convey land near the National Mall to the
10 National Women's History Museum for the purpose of constructing
11 a museum chronicling the history of women in American life; and
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the members of the Illinois Congressional
15 delegation.