

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COSPONSOR HR 1700, THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT
To Provide A Permanent Home for Women's History in Our Nation's Capital

Dear Colleague:

Washington, DC is a city of symbols so it is significant that there are museums to honor postage stamps, flight, Native Americans, African Americans (being built) and victims of the Holocaust. Where is the one honoring women? Much of women's history is still in the archives and must be brought out into the light of day. The National Women's History Museum has a mission to reclaim this history. HR 1700 would allow the National Women's History Museum (NWHM) to purchase the lot at 12th Street SW and Independence Avenue SW in Washington, DC for the purpose of building a museum to honor women's many contributions to our nation.

This bipartisan bill provides that NWHM will pay fair market value for the lot and must privately fund all construction costs associated with the building of its Museum.

There is so much about women's history that most of us do not know. Did you know that Catherine Littlefield Green co-invented the cotton gin (and you thought it was Eli Whitney alone!)? Did you know that actress Heidi Lamar discovered technology that is critical to cell phone usage today? Or what about Admiral Grace Murray Hopper who wrote the first computer operating system that is still used today? These are just a few of the amazing women who came before us. So many women belong in textbooks but have been left out. Women weave the very fabric of our society and have made remarkable accomplishments in every field of endeavor from science to medicine to the arts.

Women of this nation deserve a place where their contributions are recognized. This prestigious location at 12th Street and Independence, across the street from the National Mall, grants women the recognition that they deserve. Knowledge of women's roles will inspire respect from girls and boys, women and men.

The Co-Chair of the Bi-Partisan Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues asks for your support of HR 1700, a bill that will provide a national home for our women. Please contact Orly Isaacson; orly.isaacson@mail.house.gov with Representative Carolyn Maloney's office to be added as a cosponsor.

Sincerely,

/s/
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

/s/
Mary Fallin
Member of Congress