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National Women's History Museum would be created on the Mall under Maloney- Collins bill

WASHINGTON, DC – Reps. Carolyn B. Maloney (NY), Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC), Shelley Moore Capito (WV), Rosa DeLauro (CT), Marcy Kaptur (OH), Mario Diaz-Balart (FL) and Mary Fallin (OK) today reintroduced the “National Women’s History Museum Act” (H.R. 1700) to create a new national museum on the Mall in Washington, DC to honor the role that women have played in American History.

“The museums and memorials in our nation’s Capitol demonstrate what we value,” Rep. Maloney said. “We have museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, law enforcement and many other people and causes, but nothing for women. Less than five percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievement. And of the 210 statues here in the U.S. Capitol, only nine are of female leaders. This bill would provide women, comprising 53% of our population, a long overdue home to honor their many contributions to building our great country.”

“Women constitute the majority of our population. They make invaluable contributions to our country through family, government, corporations, education, medicine, law, literature, sports, entertainment, the arts, and the military services. The need for a museum recognizing the contributions of American women is of long standing,” Sen. Collins said. **“Such a museum would demonstrate the gratitude and respect we owe to the many generations of American women who have helped build, sustain, and advance our society.”** Senator Collins is expected to introduce the Senate companion shortly.

“The women who have persevered for years to develop the idea of a National Women’s History Museum have shaped a vision that I am proud to co-sponsor as legislation. They deserve the support of the American people in the task of raising a museum in the nation’s capital that places the history of the women in our nation front and center in the nation’s capital,” Rep. Norton said.

“From the writings of Abigail Adams, to the women of the suffrage movement, to America’s mothers – women have been at the forefront of shaping our nation’s future,” Rep. Capito said. **“With this bill we can truly honor their work, remember their sacrifice and teach their many lessons to the next generation of Americans.”**

“It is important to showcase the achievements, invaluable contributions and impact that women have had in the U.S. and around the world. A National Women’s History Museum would offer a venue that would honor the role women have played in writing our nation’s history,” said Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart.

The bill directs the General Services Administration (GSA) to sell its old Cotton Annex property on the Mall at 12th and Independence to the museum at fair-market rates. The museum would be built and maintained with private funds.

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