

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 15, 2009

Bill to create National Women's History Museum passes House

--"A Museum of Our Own" would be created near National Mall --

WASHINGTON, DC – Reps. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) today hailed House passage of their bill, H.R. 1700, to establish a National Women's History Museum near the National Mall in Washington.

"From Louisa May Alcott to Kristi Yamaguchi, the story of what women have contributed to the American way of life is a story long overdue for the telling," Rep. Maloney said. "House passage today is a recognition of that story. Thanks to the leadership of Speaker Pelosi—a trailblazer herself—and Chairman Oberstar and subcommittee Chair Norton, American women are one step closer to a long-overdue 'museum of our own'."

"Thank goodness women understand that good things are worth fighting for. As Chair of the subcommittee considering this bill, I had to maneuver through the technicalities that always come with federal land transfer. I am grateful that the perseverance of the women who conceived the idea of this museum was the wind at my back," said Rep. Norton.

"Today the House has sent a powerful message to young women all across this country," said Rep. Capito. "With the National Women's History Museum on the National Mall, Americans of all walks of life will have the opportunity to honor and remember the contributions women have made to our great nation. I'm honored to be a co-sponsor of this important resolution and I applaud the joint effort of my colleagues in making this bill a reality."

"After many years of working toward this goal, passage of the House bill is a remarkable achievement for the National Women's History Museum!" said Joan Wages, President and CEO of the National Women's History Museum. "We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Rep. Maloney for championing our efforts to ensure that women are honored in our nation's capital."

The bill directs the General Services Administration to sell property, located across from the National Mall at 12th and Independence, to the museum at a fair market rate.

Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) is expected to introduce the Senate companion to H.R. 1700.

###

For complete text of the bill, [click here](http://www.thomas.gov/home/gpoxmlc111/h1700_rh.xml) or visit
http://www.thomas.gov/home/gpoxmlc111/h1700_rh.xml