

2011-J3505

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION urging the New York State Congressional delegation to support the National Women's History Museum's efforts in securing a permanent home in the nation's capital for a museum that will highlight the important role women have played in shaping this great nation

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

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

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

WHEREAS, In 1999, the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History called for a women's history museum to be established on The National Mall in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, The National Women's History Museum (NWHM), founded in 1996, is a nonpartisan, non-profit, educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse historic contributions of women, and integrating the heritage of women fully into this nation's history; and

WHEREAS, The NWHM seeks a site on or close to the National Mall and in close proximity to the White House and U.S. Capitol Building; and

WHEREAS, The NWHM has identified federally owned property for sale near the National Mall; and

WHEREAS, Legislation is currently pending in Congress seeking authorization for the NWHM to be able to purchase this property at fair market value with privately raised funds and no federal funds are being requested for the purchase of this land; and

WHEREAS, There are museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, buildings and many other important people and issues of interest but not to women, and yet women comprise 51% of the nation's population; and

WHEREAS, The NWHM will showcase the full history of women in the

United States and the contributions they have made and continue to make in the marketplace, arts and sciences, government, entertainment, education, home, and community; and

WHEREAS, A Coalition of 43 women's organizations representing eight million women, which includes the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL), supports the efforts of the NWHM to establish a permanent residence near the National Mall, the most prominent location for museums to be situated in the nation's capital; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the New York State Congressional delegation be and hereby is respectfully memorialized by this Legislative Body to support the National Women's History Museum's efforts in securing a permanent home in the nation's capital for a museum that will highlight the important role women have played in shaping this great nation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to each member of the Congressional delegation from the State of New York.