

House Concurrent Resolution No. 25

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTON GRAY.

0192L.021

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

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

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

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

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

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

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22 **WHEREAS**, the NWHM has identified federally owned property for sale near the
23 National Mall and sites on or adjacent to the National Mall for a museum dedicated to the
24 breadth of American women's history; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, legislation is currently pending in the U.S. Congress seeking authorization
27 for the NWHM to be able to purchase this property at fair market value with privately raised

28 moneys, with no federal moneys being requested for the purchase of this land and to study how
29 the museum would be funded at no cost to the taxpayer; and

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

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35 **WHEREAS**, the NWHM will showcase the full history of women in the United States
36 and the contributions they have made and continue to make in the marketplace, arts and sciences,
37 government, entertainment, education, home, and community; and

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39 **WHEREAS**, a coalition of 51 women's organizations representing 8 million women,
40 including the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL), supports the efforts of th
41 NWHM to establish a permanent residence near the National Mall, the most prominent location
42 for museums to be situated in the nation's capital:

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44 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
45 Representatives of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
46 concurring therein, hereby request the esteemed members of the Missouri Congressional
47 delegation to support the National Women's History Museum's efforts to secure a permanent
48 home in the nation's capital for a museum that will highlight the important role women have
49 played in shaping this great nation; and

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51 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
52 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each
53 member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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