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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sewall-Belmont House & Museum and National Parks Conservation Association Praise Legislation to Preserve Nationally Treasured Women's History Site

Senator Mikulski introduces bill to include Sewall-Belmont House & Museum in National Park System

WASHINGTON – Today, the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum and National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) commend Senator Mikulski (D-MD) for introducing legislation that would designate the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum a national park site.

Home to women's suffragist, human rights activist, and founder of the National Woman's Party (NWP), Alice Paul, the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum on Capitol Hill is a landmark of the women's suffrage campaign and the historic headquarters where the NWP worked tirelessly towards equality for all women.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we are honored and grateful to Senator Mikulski for her efforts to preserve and elevate women's history," said Page Harrington, Executive Director of the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum. "The National Woman's Party fought to expand our democracy through ratification of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. It is the history of this organization and its ongoing work to enhance women's roles in society that makes us a national treasure, and I can think of no better way to elevate that story than through inclusion in the National Park System."

Kristen Brengel, NPCA's Senior Director of Legislation and Policy agreed "Senator Mikulski's legislation is a major step toward ensuring our national parks continue to evolve and tell more diverse stories, including those about women's history. Alice Paul, one of the greatest women's rights advocates and political strategists in American history, led the National Woman's Party from this site which has historical, cultural, economic and educational significance. The important history of the Sewall-Belmont House should be preserved for future generations as a national park."

Originally built more than 200 years ago, the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum, located on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. has the most complete collection of suffrage and equal rights movement artifacts in America. Students, educators, and visitors from around the world continue to visit this historically significant site to learn about Alice Paul and American women influencing social change.

Full text of the bill to establish the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site (S.1975) can be found here:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1975/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%5C%22s1975%5C%22%22%5D%7D&resultIndex=1>

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About The Sewall-Belmont House & Museum:

Already an Affiliated Site of the National Park System since 1974, the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum is operated by The National Woman's Party (NWP), a nonprofit 501(c) (3) educational organization whose focus is the preservation and operation of this historic landmark. NWP receives some support from the National Park Service under a Cooperative Agreement currently administered by the National Mall and Memorial Parks division. Additionally, the House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and was one of the first four National Treasures designated by the original Save America's Treasures legislation —along with the Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution, and the Star Spangled Banner. The Alice Award is presented annually by the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum. Named for Alice Paul—suffragist, human rights activist, and founder of the National Woman's Party—the Alice Award honors a distinguished woman who has made an outstanding contribution in breaking barriers and setting new precedents for women. The 2014 recipient was Senator Barbara Mikulski, which was presented by 2013 awardee Senator Susan Collins. Additionally Rick Goings, CEO of Tupperware Brands and Susan Porcaro Goings, co-founder of the Rick and Susan Goings Foundation were honored with the Voice for Women Award. The honorees for 2015 are Senator Patty Murray and Senator Lisa Murkowski.

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