

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3779

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a commemorative trail route in connection with the Women’s Rights National Historical Park to link properties that are historically and thematically associated with the struggle for women’s suffrage, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASE, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SOLIS, and Ms. WOOLSEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a commemorative trail route in connection with the Women’s Rights National Historical Park to link properties that are historically and thematically associated with the struggle for women’s suffrage, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “National Women’s Rights History Project Act of 2005”.

1 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

2 (1) The women’s rights movement is one of the
3 three great protest traditions in United States his-
4 tory, sharing that status with the struggle for racial
5 equality and the labor movement.

6 (2) On July 19, 1848, a group of activists in-
7 cluding Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and
8 Mary Ann M’Clintock, convened the first Women’s
9 Rights Convention at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca
10 Falls, New York. During the Convention, 68 women
11 and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments
12 calling for a broad array of rights for women, in-
13 cluding suffrage.

14 (3) Under the leadership of Elizabeth Cady
15 Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, the National Amer-
16 ican Women Suffrage Association (NAWSA) was
17 formed. NAWSA was instrumental in securing pas-
18 sage of the 19th amendment, which amended the
19 Constitution to give women the right to vote. The
20 19th amendment was passed by Congress on June
21 4, 1919, and was ratified on August 18, 1920.

22 (4) Susan B. Anthony formed the Equal Rights
23 Association, refuted ideas that women were inferior
24 to men, and fought for women’s right to vote. She
25 also campaigned for the rights of women to own

1 property, to keep their own earnings, and to have
2 custody of their children. In 1900, she persuaded
3 the University of Rochester to admit women.

4 (5) In the late 19th and early 20th centuries,
5 the women’s movement expanded to also play a crit-
6 ical role in shaping policies on economic and social
7 welfare.

8 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF VOTES FOR WOMEN HISTORY**
9 **TRAIL ROUTE AS FEATURE OF WOMEN’S**
10 **RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

11 Title XVI of Public Law 96–607, which established
12 the Women’s Rights National Historical Park, is amended
13 by inserting after section 1601 (16 U.S.C. 410*ll*) the fol-
14 lowing new section:

15 **“SEC. 1602. VOTES FOR WOMEN HISTORY TRAIL ROUTE.**

16 “(a) FINDING.—There is an opportunity for the
17 Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls
18 and Waterloo, New York, to work in partnership with his-
19 torically and thematically related properties in the corridor
20 between Syracuse and Rochester, New York, including the
21 Susan B. Anthony House, to tell the story of the 72-year
22 fight for women’s suffrage.

23 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAIL ROUTE.—The Sec-
24 retary of the Interior, acting through the Director of Na-
25 tional Park Service, with concurrence of the agency having

1 jurisdiction over the relevant roads, is authorized to des-
2 ignate a vehicular tour route, to be known as the ‘Votes
3 for Women History Trail Route’, to link properties in the
4 State of New York that are historically and thematically
5 associated with the struggle for women’s suffrage in the
6 United States.

7 “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Votes for Women His-
8 tory Trail Route shall be administered by the National
9 Park Service through the Women’s Rights National His-
10 torical Park.

11 “(d) ACTIVITIES.—To facilitate the establishment of
12 the Votes for Women History Trail Route and the dissemi-
13 nation of information regarding the Trail Route, the Sec-
14 retary shall—

15 “(1) produce and disseminate appropriate edu-
16 cational materials regarding the Trail Route, such
17 as handbooks, maps, exhibits, signs, interpretive
18 guides, and electronic information;

19 “(2) coordinate the management, planning, and
20 standards of the auto route in partnership with par-
21 ticipating properties, other Federal agencies, and
22 State and local governments;

23 “(3) create and adopt an official, uniform sym-
24 bol or device to mark the Votes for Women History
25 Trail Route; and

1 “(4) issue guidelines for the use of such symbol
2 or device.

3 “(e) ELEMENTS OF TRAIL ROUTE.—The Secretary
4 may designate as an official stop on the Votes for Women
5 History Trail Route any of the following properties, sub-
6 ject to the consent of the owner of the property:

7 “(1) All units and programs of Women’s Rights
8 National Historical Park that pertain to the struggle
9 for women’s suffrage.

10 “(2) Other Federal, State, local, and privately
11 owned properties that the Secretary determines have
12 a verifiable connection to the struggle for women’s
13 suffrage.

14 “(3) Other governmental and nongovernmental
15 facilities and programs of an educational, commemo-
16 rative, research, or interpretive nature that the Sec-
17 retary determines to be directly related to the strug-
18 gle for women’s suffrage.

19 “(f) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND MEMORANDA
20 OF UNDERSTANDING.—

21 “(1) AUTHORIZED.—To facilitate the establish-
22 ment of the Votes for Women History Trail Route
23 and to ensure effective coordination of the Federal
24 and non-Federal properties designated as stops
25 along the Trail Route, the Secretary is authorized to

1 enter into cooperative agreements and memoran-
2 dums of understanding with, and provide technical
3 and financial assistance to, other Federal agencies,
4 the State of New York, localities, regional govern-
5 mental bodies, and private entities.

6 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
7 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
8 retary of the Interior such sums as are necessary for
9 the period of fiscal year 2006 through fiscal year
10 2010 to provide financial assistance to cooperating
11 entities pursuant to agreements or memorandums
12 entered into under paragraph (1).”.

13 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL WOMEN’S RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT NA-**
14 **TIONAL REGISTRY.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior is
16 authorized to make annual grants to State historic preser-
17 vation offices for up to 5 years to assist those State his-
18 toric preservation offices in surveying, evaluating, and
19 nominating women’s rights history properties to the Na-
20 tional Register of Historic Places. The Secretary shall en-
21 sure that the National Register travel itinerary website,
22 “Places Where Women Made History” is updated to con-
23 tain the results of the inventory and links to websites re-
24 lated to places on the inventory when such links are avail-
25 able.

1 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—When offering grants under sub-
2 section (a), the Secretary shall give priority grants related
3 to properties associated with the multiple facets of the
4 women’s rights movement such as politics, economics, edu-
5 cation, religion, and social and family rights.

6 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the
8 Interior to carry out this section such sums as are nec-
9 essary for the period of fiscal year 2006 through fiscal
10 year 2010.

11 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL WOMEN’S RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT**
12 **PARTNERSHIPS NETWORK.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior is
14 authorized to make matching grants and technical assist-
15 ance for development of a network of governmental and
16 nongovernmental entities whose purpose is to provide in-
17 terpretive and educational program development of na-
18 tional women’s rights history, including historic preserva-
19 tion. Matching grants for historic preservation specific to
20 the network may be made available through State historic
21 preservation offices. The network shall be managed
22 through a nongovernmental entity, identified by the Sec-
23 retary of the Interior through a competitive process. The
24 nongovernmental managing entity shall work in partner-
25 ship with the National Park Service and State historic

1 preservation offices to coordinate operation of the net-
2 work.

3 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the
5 Interior to carry out this section such sums as are nec-
6 essary for the period of fiscal year 2006 through fiscal
7 year 2010.

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