

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1750

Recognizing the 20th anniversary of the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health and its continuing leadership and achievements in conducting and supporting biomedical research to improve women's health.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 2, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself, Ms. BERKLEY, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FARR, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. STARK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. WAXMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 20th anniversary of the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health and its continuing leadership and achievements in conducting and supporting biomedical research to improve women's health.

Whereas the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) is a leader in the national commitment to research, research training, and science-based education programs on women's health and sex differences research;

Whereas the ORWH was originally established in 1990 in response to congressional, scientific, and advocacy concerns

regarding the lack of systemic and consistent inclusion of women in NIH-funded clinical research, and the lack of scientific data and information regarding the health of women;

Whereas the ORWH has made significant progress in developing and implementing policies to ensure the inclusion of women in NIH clinical research, and thus encouraged the increased reporting in scientific literature of sex and gender-related factors in health and clinical trial analysis;

Whereas the ORWH initiated the “Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health” program in 1999 and has supported the career development and advancement of approximately 400 early-stage research scientists to become independent researchers and obtain academic promotions at major research institutions throughout the United States;

Whereas the ORWH initiated the “Specialized Centers of Research on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women’s Health” program in 2002 to support interdisciplinary and sex differences research, from basic to translational to clinical investigations, by accomplished scientists who in 2009 alone published 116 journal articles, 176 abstracts, and 63 other publications;

Whereas the ORWH collaborates with NIH Institutes and Centers to support basic, clinical, population, and translational research in laboratory, clinic, and community settings throughout the United States;

Whereas the ORWH pursues research efforts to benefit all individuals burdened by diseases and disorders within the ORWH’s mission, including both men and women, older and younger adults, children, minority populations who

are disproportionately affected by many of these diseases, and people from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and other understudied or underrepresented populations;

Whereas ORWH-supported research has dramatically increased vital understanding of sex differences research, from single cells to multiple biological systems and mechanisms, thus prompting sex differences research in endocrinology, immunology, epigenetics, systems biology, neuroscience, as well as in new technology-enabled fields such as genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics;

Whereas research conducted and supported by the ORWH has been instrumental in revolutionizing policies, research, and programs focusing on the health, prevention, diagnostic, and treatment strategies for girls, women, and their families, leading to remarkable improvements in health and quality of life;

Whereas the ORWH additionally sponsors education and outreach programs, with materials tailored for diverse audiences, to improve women's health by disseminating science-based information to women and their families, those at risk for disease, health care educators, and the general public;

Whereas the ORWH has initiated or participated in collaborative and coordinated research efforts and science-based public education programs in order to maximize the Federal investment in research and synergize expertise across the NIH or with other Federal agencies, and with public and private organizations;

Whereas ORWH has just completed a farsighted research agenda for the next decade, "Moving Into the Future With New Dimensions and Strategies: A Vision for 2020

for Women’s Health Research” that is based on the culmination of a 2-year strategic planning process, involving more than 1,500 leading scientists, women’s health advocates, public policy experts, health care providers, Federal, State, and local elected officials, and the general public in 5 regional scientific meetings;

Whereas the ORWH research agenda is visionary and addresses six major goals including increasing study of sex differences in basic research studies, incorporating findings of sex differences in the design and application of new technologies, medical devices, and therapeutic drugs, actualizing personalized prevention, diagnostics, and therapeutics for girls and women, creating strategic alliances and partnerships in order to maximize the national and international impact of women’s health research, developing and implementing new communication and social networking technologies to increase understanding and appreciation of women’s health research, and employing innovative strategies to build a well-trained, diverse, and vibrant women’s health research workforce; and

Whereas ORWH-supported initiatives and programs continue to make strides addressing the expanded concepts of women’s health across the entire lifespan of a woman, while continuing to explore understudied areas of reproductive health and the menopausal transition, developing distinct research career paths for investigators in women’s health, sex differences, and interdisciplinary research, increasing the number of investigator-initiated women’s health research studies in areas such as cardiovascular disease and stroke, musculoskeletal and immune disorders, and mental health and substance abuse, thus increasing the scientific knowledge on the health, dis-

eases, disorders, and conditions that affect diverse populations of women: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes the 20th anniversary of the Na-  
3       tional Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research  
4       on Women’s Health (ORWH) and commends the  
5       ORWH for its leadership in research, research train-  
6       ing, and science-based education programs;

7               (2) recognizes the ORWH-supported extramural  
8       and intramural scientists whose studies have im-  
9       proved women’s health, and whose research con-  
10      tinues to yield promising discoveries;

11              (3) recognizes the volunteers who participate in  
12      clinical studies and the patient and professional  
13      health organizations who contribute to the shared  
14      research goals of preventing, treating, and curing  
15      the diseases and disorders within the ORWH’s mis-  
16      sion; and

17              (4) reaffirms its support for the ORWH and its  
18      continued commitment to research to improve wom-  
19      en’s health.

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