

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1975

To establish the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2015

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. WARREN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site as a unit of the National Park System, 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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Sewall-Belmont House  
5   Act of 2015”.

### 6   **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

1           (1) the Sewall-Belmont House was designated  
2           as a National Historic Landmark, National Historic  
3           Site, and an affiliated area of the National Park  
4           Service in 1974;

5           (2) beginning in 1929, the Sewall-Belmont  
6           House served as the headquarters of the National  
7           Woman's Party, founded by Alice Paul (1885–  
8           1977), the most significant figure in the final phase  
9           of the struggle for a constitutional amendment  
10          granting women the right to vote;

11          (3) Alice Paul revived the movement, employing  
12          dramatic techniques, White House demonstrations,  
13          hunger strikes, and relentless political pressure, to  
14          achieve victory just prior to the 1920 election; and

15          (4) in June 2015, the National Park Service  
16          completed a feasibility study of the Sewall-Belmont  
17          House National Historic Site, in which the National  
18          Park Service determined that—

19                (A) the Sewall-Belmont House National  
20                Historic Site met the criteria for inclusion in  
21                the National Park System, confirming national  
22                significance, suitability, feasibility, and the need  
23                for direct National Park Service management;  
24                and

1 (B) the Sewall-Belmont House would help  
2 fill identified gaps in the National Park System  
3 related to the 20th century women’s rights  
4 movement and strengthening the overall inter-  
5 pretation of women’s history.

6 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to estab-  
7 lish the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site as  
8 a unit of the National Park System to preserve and pro-  
9 tect the site and to interpret the nationally significant re-  
10 sources related to the women’s rights movement.

11 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act:

13 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15 (2) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-  
16 titled “Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site  
17 Proposed Boundary”, numbered 896/129106, and  
18 dated July 2015.

19 (3) NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.—The term “na-  
20 tional historic site” means the Sewall-Belmont  
21 House National Historic Site established under sec-  
22 tion 4(a).

1 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWALL-BELMONT HOUSE AS A**  
2 **UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the  
4 Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site is estab-  
5 lished as a unit of the National Park System, to be known  
6 as the “Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site”.

7 (b) CONDITIONS.—The national historic site shall not  
8 be established as a unit of the National Park System until  
9 the date on which the Secretary determines that—

10 (1) the National Woman’s Party has trans-  
11 ferred the land and any improvements to the land  
12 within the boundaries described in subsection (c) to  
13 the Secretary; and

14 (2) the Secretary and the National Woman’s  
15 Party have entered into a Management Agreement  
16 in accordance with subsection (d).

17 (c) BOUNDARIES.—The national historic site shall  
18 consist of the Sewall-Belmont House National Historic  
19 Site, also known as the “Sewall-Belmont House and Mu-  
20 seum”, located at 144 Constitution Avenue, Northeast,  
21 Washington, DC, as depicted on the map.

22 (d) MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.—The Secretary may  
23 enter into a management agreement with the National  
24 Woman’s Party that provides for—

25 (1) National Park Service operation and main-  
26 tenance of the national historic site;

1           (2) the National Woman’s Party to retain own-  
 2           ership and management of the National Woman’s  
 3           Party collection, which includes an extensive library  
 4           and archival and museum holdings relating to the  
 5           women’s suffrage movement; and

6           (3) collaboration and cooperation by the Na-  
 7           tional Park Service and the National Woman’s Party  
 8           on management and interpretation of the Sewall-  
 9           Belmont House National Historic Site.

10          (e) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall admin-  
 11       ister the national historic site in accordance with—

12           (1) this Act; and

13           (2) the laws generally applicable to units of the  
 14       National Park Service, including—

15           (A) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and  
 16           sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and  
 17           102101 of title 54, United States Code; and

18           (B) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States  
 19       Code.

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