

This is probably one of the least controversial provisions in the Tax Code, so I think moving it and making it permanent, removing all uncertainty and confusion, is probably, well, in my view, certainly a good thing for our economy. I hope, after the rule vote, that we can come together on that.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to encourage my colleagues to move the process forward. This approach is important because it allows the House to consider individual tax provisions on their own merits and not hidden by a larger deal.

This credit is good for economic growth. It both creates jobs and increases wages. It is important that we not lose sight of that in the midst of this debate, so I would urge my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying legislation.

The material previously referred to by Mr. HASTINGS of Florida is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 569 OFFERED BY
MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 2. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 15) to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 3. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 15.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308-311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that

"the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

The Republican majority may say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: "Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment."

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 863) to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 863

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum established by section 3(a).

(2) MUSEUM.—The term "Museum" means the National Women's History Museum.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of 8 members, of whom—

(1) 2 members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(2) 2 members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(3) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(4) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) QUALIFICATIONS.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed to the Commission from among individuals, or representatives of institutions or entities, who possess—

(1)(A) a demonstrated commitment to the research, study, or promotion of women's history, art, political or economic status, or culture; and

(B)(i) expertise in museum administration;

(ii) expertise in fundraising for nonprofit or cultural institutions;

(iii) experience in the study and teaching of women's history;

(iv) experience in studying the issue of the representation of women in art, life, history, and culture at the Smithsonian Institution; or

(v) extensive experience in public or elected service;

(2) experience in the administration of, or the planning for, the establishment of, museums; or

(3) experience in the planning, design, or construction of museum facilities.

(d) PROHIBITION.—No employee of the Federal Government may serve as a member of the Commission.

(e) DEADLINE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—The initial members of the Commission shall

be appointed not later than the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(f) **VACANCIES.**—A vacancy in the Commission—

(1) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(2) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(g) **CHAIRPERSON.**—The Commission shall, by majority vote of all of the members, select 1 member of the Commission to serve as the Chairperson of the Commission.

SEC. 4. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) **REPORTS.**—

(1) **PLAN OF ACTION.**—The Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a report containing the recommendations of the Commission with respect to a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Women's History Museum in Washington, DC.

(2) **REPORT ON ISSUES.**—The Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a report that addresses the following issues:

(A) The availability and cost of collections to be acquired and housed in the Museum.

(B) The impact of the Museum on regional women history-related museums.

(C) Potential locations for the Museum in Washington, DC, and its environs.

(D) Whether the Museum should be part of the Smithsonian Institution.

(E) The governance and organizational structure from which the Museum should operate.

(F) Best practices for engaging women in the development and design of the Museum.

(G) The cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Museum.

(3) **DEADLINE.**—The reports required under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be submitted not later than the date that is 18 months after the date of the first meeting of the Commission.

(b) **FUNDRAISING PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission shall develop a fundraising plan to support the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the Museum through contributions from the public.

(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In developing the fundraising plan under paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider—

(A) the role of the National Women's History Museum (a nonprofit, educational organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that was incorporated in 1996 in Washington, DC, and dedicated for the purpose of establishing a women's history museum) in raising funds for the construction of the Museum; and

(B) issues relating to funding the operations and maintenance of the Museum in perpetuity without reliance on appropriations of Federal funds.

(3) **INDEPENDENT REVIEW.**—The Commission shall obtain an independent review of the viability of the plan developed under paragraph (1) and such review shall include an analysis as to whether the plan is likely to achieve the level of resources necessary to fund the construction of the Museum and the operations and maintenance of the Museum in perpetuity without reliance on appropriations of Federal funds.

(4) **SUBMISSION.**—The Commission shall submit the plan developed under paragraph (1) and the review conducted under paragraph (3) to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, House Administration, Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Rules and Administration, Energy and Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the Senate.

(c) **LEGISLATION TO CARRY OUT PLAN OF ACTION.**—Based on the recommendations con-

tained in the report submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), the Commission shall submit for consideration to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, House Administration, Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Rules and Administration, Energy and Natural Resources, and Appropriations of the Senate recommendations for a legislative plan of action to establish and construct the Museum.

(d) **NATIONAL CONFERENCE.**—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the initial members of the Commission are appointed under section 3, the Commission may, in carrying out the duties of the Commission under this section, convene a national conference relating to the Museum, to be comprised of individuals committed to the advancement of the life, art, history, and culture of women.

SEC. 5. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF COMMISSION.

(a) **DIRECTOR AND STAFF.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission may employ and compensate an executive director and any other additional personnel that are necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(2) **RATES OF PAY.**—Rates of pay for persons employed under paragraph (1) shall be consistent with the rates of pay allowed for employees of a temporary organization under section 3161 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) **NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.**—Any individual employed under this Act shall not be considered a Federal employee for the purpose of any law governing Federal employment.

(c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), on request of the Commission, the head of a Federal agency may provide technical assistance to the Commission.

(2) **PROHIBITION.**—No Federal employees may be detailed to the Commission.

SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) **COMPENSATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A member of the Commission—

(A) shall not be considered to be a Federal employee for any purpose by reason of service on the Commission; and

(B) shall serve without pay.

(2) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—A member of the Commission shall be allowed a per diem allowance for travel expenses, at rates consistent with those authorized under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) **GIFTS, BEQUESTS, DEVISES.**—The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of money, services, or real or personal property for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Commission.

(c) **FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**—The Commission shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

SEC. 7. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the final versions of the reports required under section 4(a) are submitted.

SEC. 8. FUNDING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the Commission.

(b) **PROHIBITION.**—No Federal funds may be obligated to carry out this Act.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CARO-

LYN B. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Wyoming?

There was no objection.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 863 establishes a commission to study the potential creation of a National Women's History Museum.

The commission will prepare a report with key findings that include an evaluation of potential locations for the museum in Washington, D.C.; guidance on whether it should be part of the Smithsonian Institution; and cost estimates for constructing, operating, and maintaining the facility.

In terms of fiscal responsibility, H.R. 863 requires an independent review of the report to analyze the ability of the museum to operate without taxpayer funding.

With the information generated by the report, Congress will be able to evaluate the proposed museum. This legislation does not authorize the museum to be built or authorize spending of taxpayer dollars of any kind.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the National Women's History Museum has a rightful place in our Nation's Capital, and it is very appropriate that we are considering this legislation the week of Mothers' Day.

I believe we should all be able to agree that, when our children and their children visit our Nation's Capital, they should be inspired by the stories of the men and women who helped shape this country. Sadly, today, that is not the case.

Women's contributions to our country are largely missing from our national museums, memorials, statues, and textbooks. The bill before us today seeks to finally change that.

It would be the first National Women's History Museum in Washington and the first in the United States of Americas and, I believe, the first in the entire world that would chronicle the important contributions of American women to America.

H.R. 863 would create a bipartisan, eight-person commission to develop a plan and recommendations for a National Women's History Museum in our Nation's Capital.

The commission, which would be funded entirely with private donations, would have 18 months to submit its

recommendations to Congress and the President.

Congress will then have to consider these recommendations, and a second bill would be needed to support the establishment of a women's museum, so the bill before us enables a commission to study this and for Congress, then, to react to their proposals.

Now, I would like to stress that this has been a very strong, bipartisan effort. I am proud to have worked on this bill with Congresswoman MARSHA BLACKBURN, who has been a wonderful partner and has done so much to get us where we are today. She has been outstanding.

Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON has been a great champion of this effort for years, along with Congresswoman CYNTHIA LUMMIS and many, many other Members from both parties whose support has been absolutely essential.

I would like to thank Speaker BOEHNER, Democratic Leader PELOSI, Majority Leader CANTOR, and Democratic Whip STENY HOYER for their support as well.

Thank you to the leadership and members of the House Administration and Natural Resources Committee for ushering this legislation through their committees with unanimous support, Congressmen BRADY and MILLER and Congressmen DEFazio and HASTINGS.

We are all working on this together because we believe that ensuring our country's full story is told, not just half of it, is part of our patriotic responsibility that rises above party lines, and we are working hard to make sure that this is a bill that can be supported by Members of both parties.

As I mentioned, no public funds would be used to support this commission, and the commission is required to consider a plan for the museum to be constructed and operated by private funds only. No taxpayer dollars will be involved.

Most importantly, neither this bill nor the commission it would create would set the content of this museum. That part will come later, after Congress acts on the commission's recommendations and the museum is finally established.

One could imagine a museum featuring original women thinkers ranging from Ayn Rand, who authored "Atlas Shrugged," to Mary Whiton Calkins. Ms. Rand, I suspect you may know about her, but you may not have heard of Ms. Calkins.

She was born in 1863 and studied at Harvard, under the influential American philosopher, William James, who believed her Ph.D. to be the most brilliant examination for a Ph.D. that he had ever seen; but Mary was not granted a degree because, at that time, Harvard had a policy against conferring degrees on women.

Despite the setback, she went on to become a charter member of the American Philosophical Association and the first woman president of the American Psychological Association.

□ 1430

But most people have never heard of her or her accomplishments because when the story of America has been told, the story of many remarkable women has all too often been left out.

Currently in the Nation's Capital and near The Mall or on The Mall, there is an Air and Space Museum, a Spy Museum, a Textile Museum, a National Postal Museum, even a Crime and Punishment Museum and a media museum. These are all wonderful, enriching institutions that are destinations for millions of visitors every year. But there is no museum in the country that shows the full scope of the history of the amazing, brilliant, courageous, innovative, and sometimes defiant women who have helped to shape our history and make this country what it is.

Even though women make up 50 percent of the population, a survey of 18 history textbooks found that only 10 percent of the individuals identified in the texts were women; less than 5 percent of the 2,400 National Historic Landmarks chronicle the achievements of women; and of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only nine are of female leaders.

As an example, while nearly every high school student learns about the midnight ride of Paul Revere, how many of them learn about Sybil Ludington? She is the 16-year-old whose midnight ride to send word to her father's troops that the British were coming was longer than Paul Revere's, just as important, and, in many ways, was even more remarkable. But her ride has been long forgotten.

On display in our Capitol Rotunda is a statue of three courageous women who fought so hard for women to gain the right to vote. And it is my hope that in 2020, on the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote, that we will open the doors to this important museum.

I urge the passage of this long overdue legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN).

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank my wonderful colleague from the State of Wyoming.

Madam Speaker, I would like to stipulate, first of all, that all Republican women are pro-women and that all Republican men that serve in this Congress are pro-women, as are the Democrat women and the Democrat men in this Congress.

A "no" vote on the current legislation, which I advocate for, very simply, is a vote to stand up for the pro-life movement, a vote to stand up for traditional marriage, and a vote to stand up for the traditional family.

There already are 20 women's museums in the United States, including one affiliated with the Smithsonian Museum and including one right next to the United States Capitol. So why would we be building another?

I rise today in opposition to this bill because I believe, ultimately, this museum that would be built on The National Mall, on Federal land, will enshrine the radical feminist movement that stands against the pro-life movement, the pro-family movement, and the pro-traditional marriage movement.

The idea of celebrating women is admirable. It is shared by everyone in this Chamber. No one disputes that. And a few of the museum's proposed exhibits are worthy. No one disputes that.

I, for one, am honored to be featured in an online exhibit about motherhood that highlights our 23 foster children and our five biological children.

However, I am deeply concerned that any worthy exhibits are clearly the exception and not the rule. A cursory view of the overall content already listed on the Web site shows an overwhelming bias toward women who embrace liberal ideology, radical feminism, and it fails to paint an accurate picture of the lives and actions of American women throughout our history.

The most troubling example is the museum's glowing review of the woman who embraced the eugenics movement in the United States, Margaret Sanger. She is an abortion trailblazer, and she is the founder of Planned Parenthood, which this body has sought to defund. Yet the museum glosses over Margaret Sanger's avid support for sterilization of women and abortion and for the elimination of chosen ethnic groups, particularly African Americans, and classes of people. I find Margaret Sanger's views highly offensive, yet she is featured over and over again as a woman to extoll on this Web site and, ultimately, in this museum. Adding in a conservative woman to balance out Sanger's inclusion does not alleviate the fact that the museum tries to whitewash her abhorrent views and props Margaret Sanger up as a role model for our daughters and for our granddaughters.

The list of troubling examples goes on, including the fact they leave out the pro-life views of the early suffragettes.

But let's face it, we wouldn't be here today if it weren't the museum's ultimate goal to get a place on The Federal Mall, for land, and for Federal funding. If you look at their authorizing legislation, you will see that it was a template for this legislation: begin with a commission, then congressional approval, and finally Federal funding. For 16 years, this group has tried to raise financial support, and the museum has only been able to raise enough to cover the current operating expenses and salaries of those trying to get this museum. Nothing has gone toward the \$400 million for its building.

As it is currently written, the legislation lacks the necessary safeguards to ensure that the proposed museum will not become an ideological shrine

to abortion, that will eventually receive Federal funding and a prominent spot on The National Mall.

I thank the leading pro-life groups, like Concerned Women for America, Eagle Forum, Family Research Council, Susan B. Anthony List, and Heritage Action, among others, who have been outspoken on standing up for the right to life for all Americans in an accurate portrayal of American women.

Since these concerns have not been adequately addressed, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against H.R. 863.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, this bill, as we all know, if you read it, will not cost taxpayers one single dime. It will not cost taxpayers one single cent. It didn't cost it in the past, it doesn't today, and it will not in the future use any Federal funding. It is written into the legislation.

And the commission is not at all about determining the content of the museum. That part would come much later if the recommendations were approved by this body. The content would be determined in the future by professional curators that would chronicle the history of this great country and the great women that are a part of it. The commission would have 18 months to prepare and submit their recommendations to Congress, and then Congress, this body, would have the final say. So if Congress decides favorably, then, and only then, would a second bill be needed to support the museum and move forward.

So to vote "no" on this bill would basically be voting "no" on a cost-free, no-strings-attached conversation by a bipartisan panel on the important contributions of women to this country.

I now yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, and I thank her for her extraordinary leadership on this issue and so many, many other issues.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentlewoman from New York. Her persistence has been indomitable; and without that persistence, we certainly would not be on the floor today.

But I also want to thank the Majority leadership who have permitted this bill to come forward on suspension, and I particularly thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming for her leadership.

The remarks of the gentlewoman from Minnesota were unfortunate. You would think you were voting on a museum. My colleagues, this is not a bill for a museum. This is a bill for a commission to study whether there should be a museum and under what circumstances. It is unfortunate, indeed, to criticize a bill for a study, the outcome of which we have no idea, except for the following:

The appointees to this commission will come from the leadership of this House and the minority in this House

and from the leadership in the Senate and the minority in the Senate. It seems to me it would be very difficult for this bill to be converted into not a study of whether the history of women in the United States should be commemorated but a study of current women's issues that are highly controversial. To have a museum featuring controversial issues of the day flies in the face of what women's history has been about. That is for this House. That is not for a museum.

There is no neglect of the issues that the gentlewoman was concerned about—pro-life issues, traditional family—where we find Democrats and Republicans on both sides of those issues. You get lots of discussion on that. But, Madam Speaker, there is almost no discussion about the history of women in our country.

There are lots of things we could disagree about, but I think that almost no one will disagree that the time has come to at least study whether there should be an institution, a museum, not about women in America—and I stress, this is not a women's museum. It is about the history of women in America. The gentlewoman from New York has spoken about how distinguished that history has been. But it should come as no surprise that women were not writing the history books, and so women, like many others in our country, have not exactly been included. Yet we are half of the population.

Wherever you stand on women's issues, I am sure there is consensus in this House that half of the population should not go unmentioned in the textbooks of our country, should not be unseen in the memorials and in the museums of our country, and certainly should be in the Nation's Capital. If there is to be a museum—and we don't know what the commission will find—I would surely hope it would be in the Nation's Capital, where, for the first time, women's history, historical figures who are women, would be acknowledged and perhaps commemorated.

I do want to say one thing about what these commissions do. If we who desire a women's museum made any mistake, it was being so enthusiastic that we went straightforward to try to set up a museum, saw no reason why there wouldn't be unanimous consent, virtually, to have a museum about women's history in our country. That was a mistake. We should have gone the same route that many before us have gone: set up a commission to see whether you ought to have a museum at all; do it in an entirely bipartisan way so as to make sure that if you authorize a museum, it can't possibly be controversial.

And that is what we have here, a fail-safe method of assuring that if you vote for this commission, you are voting for a study, and nothing more than a study. If you don't like this study, you will surely have another chance to

say "no." Women, Democratic and Republican, deserve a bipartisan commission to give our country, if they can agree, a nonpartisan museum in the Nation's Capital.

And I thank the gentlelady from New York particularly for her hard work. This is hard work that began when the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women called for a women's museum in Washington. I remind the House that the House has voted for this museum. The Senate has voted for the museum. All that has been lacking is Senate and House votes for the museum at the same time.

□ 1445

Today we are not voting for a museum. We ask you to vote only for a commission to study whether there should be a museum. We got so far last time as to actually find land for this museum. All of that is pulled back to put before the House today: Do you believe that the history of women in the United States of America is important enough to appoint a commission to study that history?

I thank the gentlelady.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I want to underscore that no taxpayer money will be used now or in the future. In fact, there is a National Women's History Museum organization with a 501(c)(3) that is headed by Joan Wages, and they have already raised well over \$10 million privately to support the commission and the commission's work.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, at this time, I would like to yield 7 minutes to the gentlelady from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from Wyoming for her superb work on this issue and for her guidance as this bill moved through the Natural Resources Committee. It is amazing. We had two committees of jurisdiction that oversaw this legislation, House Admin, chaired by Congresswoman CANDICE MILLER, and Natural Resources, with Congressman DOC HASTINGS.

This legislation came through each of these committees on a unanimous vote—a unanimous vote, something deemed impossible in Washington—but everybody agrees that it is time that we come together and that we have an appropriate, bipartisan approach to addressing the collecting and the enshrining of what women have done in the fight and the cause of freedom.

Now, Madam Speaker, I do want to highlight just a couple of things. There has been so much misinformation distributed about the bill. This is a 10-page bill—I should say nine pages and about three lines. I think that Congresswoman MALONEY, who has worked so diligently on this effort, will say, and as she and I discussed this morning, we basically have come forward and agreed on a new approach for all

museums that could possibly want to be considered. That approach is Congress, not a Presidential commission, but Congress having the ability to determine, in a bipartisan way, who serves on the commissions to review these museums and do a feasibility study, which is something those of us in business always do before we embark on any project. It is appropriate that the Federal Government do that, also. This is a fiscally conservative approach to addressing the cost of a museum.

Now, the duties of the commission my colleagues are going to find on page 4, and you will see there are several things that will be covered in this feasibility study: the availability and cost of collections, the impact of the museum on women's regional, history-related museums, potential locations in D.C., whether or not the museum should ever be part of the Smithsonian, the governance and organizational structure, best practices for engaging women in the development and design of the museum, and the cost and construction of operating and maintaining. In other words, they have got to have an endowment. They have to be able to pay their operational costs and their upfront costs—all of it—with private funds—never, ever with one penny of taxpayer money into this project.

Now, after 18 months of work, the commission will report back to Congress, an independent review will be done of their work, and then there will be a determination by Congress on whether or not to proceed with this project. That is the point at which there will be a vote on whether or not to carry forth with a museum.

But I would highlight with my friends this is about chronicling the history that women have participated in, the freedom and opportunity of this country and the fullness of opportunity in this country. We talk so much about how we work with other nations and especially some of these nations that have struggled in Eastern Europe and in the Middle East, and we show what freedom can do for hope and opportunity for women and children.

Wouldn't it be great if we had a museum that told that story? Like the story of the suffragists—Seneca Falls—that convention which—by the way it was Republican and conservative women and the Quakers who called together the Seneca Falls convention to start looking at the issue of suffrage. You probably are also interested to know Frederick Douglass was the one gentleman invited to speak at that convention on suffrage, then, of course, the suffragists who led the fight, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Anne Dallas Dudley—strong Republican women. It is time for that story to be told.

The ratification of the 19th Amendment with women receiving the right to vote took place in Nashville, Tennessee, my State, at our State capitol, where I have had the opportunity, and the Speaker has also had the opportunity, to serve.

We know that it is important to tell that story of what women have done in the cause of freedom. That is why we have come together to agree on the structure, to work to put a commission in place that will do the necessary due diligence, that will put the safeguards in place, and will guarantee that in perpetuity—forever—there will not be Federal taxpayer money that is spent on this.

Madam Speaker, working to highlight what women have accomplished is a worthy goal, and it is something that in a bipartisan manner we should be able to come together and to agree on. This is a goal, and Washington, D.C., is an appropriate place that we can recognize this history, we can chronicle this history, and for future generations, our children, our grandchildren, and for other nations as they come to see us, they can see how women find victory through freedom, opportunity, and the doors that open and what it allows them to experience in their lives.

I thank the chairman from Wyoming for yielding the time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from the great State of Tennessee for her statement on the floor today and her hard work in passing this bill.

My good friend, Mrs. BACHMANN, said there were 20 other women's museums. Well, there is not one comprehensive women's museum that chronicles the achievements and the contributions of women. There are many niche museums. There is a museum in Seneca Falls that pays tribute to the founding mothers of the first women's rights convention, the abolitionist movement, and the right for women to gain the right to vote. There are museums in the Capital for women artists. There is part of the Smithsonian that focuses on the first ladies and the gowns that they wore in their inaugural. There are niche museums out West for the pioneering great women who led the effort in the West. But there is not one comprehensive museum, and I find it astonishing in the United States that chronicles the many outstanding women contributions. If you Google all the women that have won the Nobel, it is astonishing, but there is no place that displays this.

So, I think it is long overdue to have a national women's history museum. Quite frankly, I can't even find one in the entire world that chronicles women's contributions.

I would now like to yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from the great State of New York, Congresswoman MENG, my distinguished colleague, which she has requested, but she can have more if she wants it.

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I also want to thank my colleagues, Congresswomen CAROLYN MALONEY and MARSHA BLACKBURN, for championing this important issue.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 863 to establish the commission to

study the potential creation of a national women's history museum. This bipartisan legislation is a small step to ensuring women's stories are shared, celebrated, and inspire future generations of Americans. Unfortunately, women's stories and accomplishments have consistently been forgotten, or presented only as a footnote.

Despite the great strides women have made in America, we are still underrepresented in essential sectors, such as business, government, and the critical fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Research has demonstrated that one of the factors limiting success for women and minorities is the lack of both celebrated specific role models and overall restricted representation.

In other words, simply having a museum showcasing women's accomplishments as an integral part of our history—whether it is individuals who broke barriers, social movements led by women, or the demonstration that women were not necessarily defined by men in their lives—will ultimately lead to more young women and minorities striving to break the glass ceiling and create a more equitable society for us all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. MENG. The National Women's History Museum already hosts online exhibits, but a building complete with permanent access to resources would allow for further research and increased access for our citizens.

This legislation allows for the creation of a commission to study the feasibility of creating a permanent museum, and prohibits Federal funds from being used for this project. I encourage my colleagues to support this long overdue legislation.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from the great State of Maryland, DONNA EDWARDS, the distinguished leader who is also the chair of the bipartisan Women's Caucus here in Congress.

Ms. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewomen from New York, from Tennessee, and from Wyoming for your leadership and for doing what women do in this Congress, which is work together toward a common good. So I thank you very much for your leadership.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 863, the National Women's History Commission Act. It is a bill that would establish a commission to study the potential creation of the National Women's History Museum right here in Washington, D.C., and, as has been stated before, not at any cost to the taxpayer.

It would showcase the contributions that women have made throughout our

history, both in this country and around the world, contributions that have historically been underrepresented, to say the least, in books, museums, and other records of our Nation's great story.

There are institutions, for example, in Maryland, the Maryland Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore, that are really leading the pushback in our State against the void of women's representation in our historical records. The Baltimore Heritage Center serves as a museum, an information resource center, and a gathering place for events focused on impacting girls and women. When I visited the Heritage Center, number one, they said to me, are you supporting the National Women's History Commission Act?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I yield the gentlelady an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. EDWARDS. This will complement those histories and tell the story of women at the Goddard Space Flight Center, women who are in science, technology, engineering, and math; women who are engineers, explorers and innovators. So, I want to thank the gentlewomen for their work on this effort, and I urge my colleagues to support the commission bill, to study the process—there is no cost to the taxpayer—and to see into law, finally, telling the stories of women all across this country.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York has 2 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I would like to just point out and build on what my good friend and colleague, MARSHA BLACKBURN, said. It was Seneca Falls in New York that was the birthplace of the suffrage movement to grant women the right to vote.

In 1920, when the 19th Amendment granting that right to vote was at last in the process of being ratified by the States, it was the State of Tennessee that put that effort over the top. Now Tennessee and New York have come together again, and we are working very hard to create a women's museum that will talk about this great achievement and many others in all fields that have empowered this country and moved this country forward—not only achievements by individual women, but I would say collective achievements by women and their hard work, such as the effort by women to create pasteurization of milk, the immunization of children, increased health care, improved health care, and improved education. These are all efforts that collectively women have worked together on.

So I ask my colleagues today to vote "yes" on this bill and to vote for allow-

ing an idea to be examined and to come forward before this committee again, and let's see how it can work.

□ 1500

A "yes" vote will cost this country nothing, and it could mean everything to our young people, to our girls and our boys and our children and their children to be able to come to their Nation's Capital and to learn many things, including the many important contributions of half the population, women.

I would like to remind my colleagues that this is Mother's Day week, and I cannot think of a better present to our mothers than to recognize the contributions that they have made to the American family and to this country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the women who have participated in this debate today. These are dynamic American leaders. I want to thank each and every one of them, including the gentlelady from Minnesota, who expressed the views of those who have concerned about this bill. They were well articulated.

She is someone with whom I am proud to serve in Congress and was very proud to see in the dais, participating in lively, strident debates when she ran for President, seeking the Republican nomination in the last Presidential election. These are all very formidable, important women—gentlewomen, one and all.

I rise in support of the study and in support of the passage of this bill. I come from the Equality State, the State of Wyoming, the first government in the world to continuously grant women the right to vote, so I come by my point of view honestly.

I am very excited about the opportunity to study and to report back to this Congress the notion of having a museum of the history of American women. The contributions to our society of American women are so extraordinary and are sometimes underrepresented.

I particularly look forward to touting the opportunity to show the history of American women of the West, people like Cattle Kate. She was a criminal, a scoundrel, a cattle thief. She was the first woman hanged in Wyoming. She is a historical figure.

Sacagawea, who led the Lewis and Clark expedition across this great, vast country; Annie Oakley, who was portrayed as a model of the American West and freedom in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West show; and particularly, I would like to see Dale Evans recognized in this museum.

Let me tell you something about Dale Evans you may not know. Dale Evans was an actress, a songwriter, a mother, and she was the wife of Roy Rogers. They were the king of the cowboys and the queen of the cowgirls.

Dale Evans and Roy Rogers had a special-needs child among their many children.

Back in Hollywood in the late 1940s and 1950s, there was a cultural condition in this country that was particularly prevalent in Hollywood, and that was people didn't want to see special-needs children in public. People didn't want to face the fact that not everyone in this country is born exactly the same.

Roy and Dale took their special-needs child with them everywhere they went, and they were ostracized, and they ceased to be invited to people's homes because they didn't want to see that child. It was a gutsy thing to do.

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans changed the way Americans viewed special-needs children. Now, when we see special-needs people in our society, it puts a smile on our faces. They are so integrated into our every day, and they are important members of our society.

When that child died, Dale Evans wrote the song "Happy Trails" to that child. She wrote, "Happy trails to you, until we meet again," and in my heart, I believe they will meet again, Madam Speaker.

I think those are the kinds of women that we want to see portrayed in American history, and I am highly supportive of this study. I look forward to robust participation by Republican and Democrats and look forward to receiving the study, not knowing how it is going to turn out, but with great hope and expectation for something terrific, at least on paper, so we can determine at that point whether to move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to this body's attention H.R. 863.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 863 to commission a study on the potential creation of a National Women's History Museum.

As you know Mr. Speaker, women make up over half of our population, and yet we know their stories are often underrepresented—and underappreciated—in our history.

Here in the Capitol, for example, we have over 200 statues, but only 12 depict women. As Ms. Magazine recently noted, "The nation's capital includes museums for the postal service, textiles and spies, but lacks a museum to recognize the rich history and accomplishments of women in the U.S."

Mr. Speaker, the stories of women tell the story of our nation's history, and they deserve to be enshrined for future generations to learn and celebrate. I'm so pleased that my colleagues CAROLYN MALONEY and MARSHA BLACKBURN have introduced this important legislation to start the process of creating a museum where the achievements and lives of women are chronicled and celebrated.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Women's History Commission Act, H.R. 863, introduced by my esteemed colleague from New York, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY.

Representative MALONEY has worked diligently to get this important bill to the floor, and I thank her for her tremendous efforts.

H.R. 863 would establish a commission to report recommendations to the President and Congress concerning the establishment of a National Women's History Museum in Washington, DC.

The National Women's History Museum Commission would be at no additional cost to the taxpayer, as the commission is entirely paid for without the use of federal funds.

The Museum's mission would be to educate, inspire, empower, and shape the future by integrating women's distinctive history into the culture of the United States.

All too often, women's history is largely missing from textbooks, memorials, and museum exhibits.

Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only nine are of female leaders.

Less than five percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievement.

The museums and memorials in our nation's Capital demonstrate what we value.

This bill would provide women, who comprise 53% of our population, a long overdue home on our National Mall honoring their many contributions that are the very backbone of our country.

This effort is about bringing together women and remembering those women that came before us, who persevered and changed the course of history, and on whose shoulders we stand today.

These unique experiences, perspectives, and historic accomplishments deserve recognition in our nation's capital.

It is time for the women of our nation to be recognized with this landmark.

H.R. 863 is a critical step in advancing the National Women's History Museum by providing us with a blueprint of steps to take in order to finally tell the story of more than half of our country's population.

Let us honor our nation's foremothers and inspire present and future generations of women leaders.

I urge all Members of the House to vote in favor of this bill.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 863, the National Women's History Museum Commission Act. Legislation to establish such a museum passed by voice vote in the 113th Congress but the privately-funded museum lacks a home.

While women's accomplishments have helped to build this country, historical contributions are missing from museums, textbooks, and memorials. This legislation would allow for a commission to study the creation and make proposals for the building of the National Women's History Museum. At no cost to the taxpayer and without using any federal funds, the museum would help to tell the inspiring stories of the important women that came before us.

Celebrating and recognizing women in history is necessary at a time when roughly ten percent of historical references are related to women. The legislation on the floor is not only bipartisan, it has the support of many male and female Members of Congress.

Please join me in supporting H.R. 863, the National Women's History Museum Commission Act by passing the legislation today.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 863, a bill to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Cre-

ation of a National Women's History Museum, sponsored by Rep. CAROLYN MALONEY of New York. While Natural Resources is the primary committee, the legislation was referred to the Committee on House Administration as an additional referral because H.R. 863 suggests that the Commission study whether or not such a museum, if created, should be part of the Smithsonian Institution. Our committee discussed that issue at a hearing before we filed our report in the House.

I want to draw attention to an issue which was not addressed in amendments to this legislation by either committee—the proper structure of the Commission. The bill would create an 8-member commission, but previous commissions of this type to study whether museums should become part of the Smithsonian proposed a larger group, 23 members. The larger number seems more practical for ensuring a variety of opinions and providing sufficient personnel to be available to do the Commission's work. There is likely to be significant interest by well-qualified persons to serve on the commission. Additionally, the bill only provides for appointments by the bipartisan, bicameral congressional leadership of each chamber of Congress, but not by the president. The recent commissions to study the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is now under construction on the Mall, and the National Museum of the American Latino, which is now awaiting a hearing in the House Administration Committee, had presidential appointees. I believe this is a prerequisite for creating a truly national museum. When this legislation reaches the Senate, I hope that the other body will make appropriate adjustments to achieve this goal.

I include the Additional Views submitted by the Democratic members of the Committee on House Administration as part of our committee report, H. Rept. 113 09411, Part 1, filed in the House on April 10, 2014:

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

We strongly support the "Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum Act of 2013", to recognize the role and achievements of the women of America. H.R. 863, the bill introduced by Rep. Carolyn Maloney of New York to authorize the commission, was ordered reported unanimously by the Committee on House Administration on April 2, 2014. The primary committee to which the legislation was referred, Natural Resources, is expected to report the legislation shortly.

The principal interest of our Committee is in whether such a museum should become part of the Smithsonian Institution. The commission created by H.R. 863 is directed to study pros and cons of a potential Smithsonian affiliation, and that issue was also discussed during testimony at our earlier hearing on this legislation. A Smithsonian museum would be subject to direction by that Institution's Board of Regents and its governance and management structure. Two other recent national commissions were authorized by Congress and both recommended that the Smithsonian structure be used for the museums they were studying: the National Museum of African American History and Culture, currently under construction on the National Mall and scheduled to open in less than two years; and the National Museum of the American Latino, whose commission's report submitted in 2011 is likely to receive a hearing soon in the Committee on House Administration.

An alternative recommendation by the commission might be for a National Women's

History Museum to exist as an independent entity, with its own governing board. In either case, whether as a Smithsonian museum or independent, H.R. 863 anticipates that the museum will receive private donations but no government funding.

In reporting H.R. 863, our Committee took no position on the governance issue, but we have ample experience in evaluating the Smithsonian's capabilities in building and managing the large number of museums currently under its control, and so we kept that option in the bill. The commission should exercise its best judgment in determining what would work best for this specific museum within the expected budgetary constraints, and Congress would review those recommendations in formulating later legislation to actually create a museum.

One issue of concern to us relates to the size and composition of the eight-member congressionally-appointed commission proposed to be established in H.R. 863, and the absence of any presidential appointees. In order to have a true national museum, participation by the president is important in order to give the commission the status and credibility, as well as the variety of members, necessary to perform its tasks and to help raise the necessary private funds when that time comes. Both the African American Museum commission and the American Latino Museum commission had seven presidential appointees out of 23 members, with the majority appointed by the congressional leadership.

There are no partisan issues concerning this legislation. The commission needs to be seen as the national commitment that it is, rather than be limited as a creature of the legislative branch.

An amendment had been drafted by the Democratic staff, which the House parliamentarian confirmed was within the jurisdiction of the House Administration Committee to take up, to establish presidential appointees in H.R. 863. Ranking Member Brady alluded to the issue in his opening statement. But the amendment was withheld during our markup at Chairman Miller's request. The Committee on Natural Resources may consider the issue in their role as the primary committee, at their own markup, and we will continue to focus attention on the issue during preparation of a final text of the bill for action on the House floor.

ROBERT A. BRADY.

ZOE LOFGREN.

JUAN VARGAS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 863, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules