November 18, 2014

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

The National Coalition for History (NCH) would like to express our appreciation for the amendments you made to S. 398, the “Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women’s History Museum Act,” when the bill was recently marked by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. As a result of the changes, NCH supports the passage of S. 398.

NCH is a consortium of over 50 organizations that advocates on federal legislative and regulatory issues. The coalition is made up of a diverse number of groups representing historians, archivists, researchers, teachers, students, documentary editors, preservationists, political scientists, museum professionals and other stakeholders.

Thank you for including our suggestion that someone with experience as a professional historian with expertise in women’s history be included among the qualifications for those serving on the commission. We also support the amended language that requires an independent review of the fundraising plan recommended by the commission.

We greatly appreciate your willingness to work with the historical community to improve the bill, and to solicit our input in recommending highly-qualified women’s historians and museum professionals to serve on the commission when it is created. We stand ready to assist you in any way we can to ensure passage of the bill and to achieve the ultimate goal of creating a world-class National Women’s History Museum.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee White, the Executive Director of the NCH at 202-544-2422, x-116 or lwhite@historycoalition.org.

Sincerely,

John Dichtl
NCH Policy Board President

Lee White
NCH Executive Director