

National Sculpture Society

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• Founded 1893 •

Gwen Pier, Executive Director

July 10, 2023

House Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Federal Lands
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Regarding Hearing scheduled on Thursday, July 13, 2023

Specifically: H.R. 1318, to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

Dear Chairman Tiffany and Ranking Member Neguse:

I am writing to ask for your support of the site location on the National Mall for a monument in recognition of the women's suffrage movement and the resulting passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. That momentous event in our nation's history should be commemorated on a prominent site in our nation's capital.

It astonishes me to think that my grandmother and great-aunts were born in a country – this country - where women did not have a political voice. As you know, the women's suffrage movement began 176 years ago when a group of people gathered in Seneca Falls, New York. Over the next seven decades, the extraordinary efforts of a diverse group of (mostly) women from across the country, single and married, wealthy and poor, of all colors and backgrounds, led the effort to secure the right of women to vote. Many who devoted the good part of their lives to realizing this basic right did not live to know the results of their efforts. Just 102 years ago, congress passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

This proposed monument will be a tribute to the bold women and men that championed equality in this country, through imprisonment, hunger strikes, steadfast organizing and educating.

I respectfully request that we, as a nation, celebrate the great work and achievement of the women's suffrage movement with a monument on the National Mall. On the proposed site, countless citizens of our nation and visitors to our capital will see it and be reminded that all Americans play an important role in our society.

Sincerely yours,
Gwen Pier, Executive Director, National Sculpture Society