## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

February 24, 2020

The Honorable Roy Blunt Chairman Committee on Rules and Administration United States Senate The Honorable Amy Klobuchar Ranking Member Committee on Rules and Administration United States Senate

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

We write to request that the Senate Rules Committee promptly consider the *Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Act* (S. 959) at the Committee's next markup. This Act would create an American women's history museum in our nation's capital.

A comprehensive museum dedicated to women's history is long overdue. In 2014, Congress created a Congressional Commission to study the potential for an American museum of women's history in Washington, DC. In 2016, the bipartisan commission unanimously recommended the creation of a new Smithsonian Museum for this purpose. The *Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Act* would act upon this recommendation by establishing a national museum to collect, study, and create programs on a wide spectrum of American women's experiences, contributions, and history.

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved its companion bill (H.R. 1980) by a vote of 374-37. We ask that the Rules Committee consider and report S. 959 as soon as possible so that it may advance in the Senate this year when we are celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage.

We owe it to future generations to ensure the many accomplishments and diverse experiences of women are recognized as a fundamental part of our nation's narrative, and we look forward to working with you to advance S. 959. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins United States Senator

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Dianne Feinstein United States Senator