

HOUSE No. 1781

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Gailanne M. Cariddi

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 1781

By Ms. Cariddi of North Adams, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1781) of Gailanne M. Cariddi and others relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail throughout the Commonwealth. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 161B of the General Laws as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition is hereby
2 amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 28. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary the secretary,
4 in cooperation with the executive director of the office of travel and tourism, in this section
5 called “executive director”, shall develop and implement a “Women’s Rights History Trail”
6 program. Said program shall promote education and awareness of the struggle for women’s
7 rights throughout history.

8 (b) The women’s rights history trail shall include, but shall not be limited to properties
9 and sites that tell the story of the struggle for women’s suffrage. The secretary and executive
10 director shall seek the advice of local government officials or entities and interested groups to
11 identify properties and sites that are historically and thematically associated with the struggle for
12 women’s rights and women’s suffrage to be a part of the trail. These properties and sites shall

13 include, but not be limited to, the Susan B. Anthony House located in the town of Adams, the
14 Orchard House located in the town of Concord, Brinley Hall located in the city of Worcester, and
15 the Sojourner Truth Memorial located in the city of Northampton. The secretary and executive
16 director shall develop the women's rights history trail so that it is relatively simple and easy to
17 follow for patrons.

18 (c) The secretary and executive director shall produce and disseminate appropriate
19 educational materials regarding the trail route, such as handbooks, maps, exhibits, signs,
20 interpretive guides, and electronic information.

21 (d) The executive director shall develop vacation itineraries based on the women's rights
22 history trail, which shall identify for visitors surrounding attractions, restaurants, farms, lodging
23 and other exhibits or places of entertainment as may be a part of the historical theme linking the
24 properties and sites on the women's rights history trail. The executive director shall develop
25 discount packages for such women's rights history trail, which may include the development of a
26 women's rights history trail passport.

27 (e) The secretary is authorized to permit the erection and maintenance of signs on the
28 state highway system or trails designated pursuant to this section; provided however, that the
29 trail designation shall be of a ceremonial nature and the official names of such highways shall
30 not be changed as a result of such designations.