

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

June 11, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama
President
United States of America
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I request that you proclaim the Sewall-Belmont House a national monument.

The Sewall-Belmont House is an American treasure of national significance. Originally home to Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin, it was the only site in Washington to offer armed resistance when British troops invaded in August 1814.

It later became the headquarters for the historic National Woman's Party and home to suffragist leader, Alice Paul. Paul marshaled four generations of activists to work to end legal, social and economic discrimination against women. The Party and Paul's political strategies and techniques became the blueprint for civil-rights organizations.

The house is now a National Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, it was one of four original designations of the Save America's Treasures legislation. Sadly though, the Sewall-Belmont House is financially strapped and on the verge of shutting its door.

The U.S. Department of Interior Secretary, Sally Jewell, recently approved the National Park Service's (NPS) feasibility study on the Sewall-Belmont House. It concluded that more direct NPS management is strongly justified. I urge you to support this recommendation and proclaim Sewall-Belmont a national monument. We must save this treasured symbol of women's equality for future generations.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator