

U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #124, APRIL 2014

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

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NEW LEGISLATION WEB SITE: USING CONGRESS.GOV

This new site (Congress.gov) for getting information from the Library of Congress about legislation is not as user friendly as its predecessor Thomas.gov (named for Thomas Jefferson). The Thomas site no longer works, so we are stuck with its replacement Congress.gov. The current session of Congress is the 113th. If you seek to research a bill without specifying 113th session, you are apt to get information on that bill number from every past session of Congress. This is not helpful when you are not interested in what was in that bill number in previous sessions of Congress especially since that bill number in previous sessions will likely deal with some subject other than the one in which you are interested. You can avoid this problem by going to the box on the upper left hand corner of the screen. If it says "all legislation" you will find all bills past and present which had that bill number. Click on the arrow and select "current legislation."

In the past a specific bill was designated as SB for a Senate bill or HR for a House bill. On this new site if you want to find Senate bill 398 you would type in S.398. Once you find the bill or resolution in which you are interested, click on the bill number. Make sure to scroll down at least one screen. There you will find tabs running horizontally across the screen which allow you to find each of the following: summary, text, action, titles, amendments, cosponsors, committees and related bills. To find the names of cosponsors, simply click on the number of cosponsors in the heading of the first screen containing the bill number or click on the cosponsors tab in the screen that comes up after clicking on the bill number. Again scroll down one screen to see the names of the cosponsors.

**SENATOR HEIDI HEITKAMP SIGNS ON AS COSPONSOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY
MUSEUM BILL (S.398)**

Congratulations to our DKG members in North Dakota who called and wrote to Senator Heidi Heitkamp asking her to cosponsor S. 398. She is the latest Senator to sign on as a cosponsor (on April 30, 2014). This leaves Senator Deb Fischer of Nebraska as the only woman senator who has not signed on as a cosponsor.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM (NWHM)

Did you know that in 1922 **Bessie Coleman**, the first licensed female African American aviator, gave her first exhibition on Long Island? We learned about Bessie at the National Legislative Seminar. She learned to fly and got her pilot's license in France after which she opened a flying school in the Chicago area. To learn more about Bessie and other women in history go to <http://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/>. This is the site of the National Women's History Museum which has online exhibits that include information on women in sports, women entrepreneurs, women in WWII, African American women in U.S. history, women and the vote, and many other categories.

To find out about women legislators in your state, go to <http://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/legislators/index.html> where you will find a U.S. map. Click on your state to find out about women legislators in your state. The museum has many online educational resources.

Another interesting exhibit is "Girls Changing History" which can be found at <http://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/youngandbrave/index.html>. An excerpt from that site is given below.

"The National Women's History Museum is very pleased to present "Young and Brave: Girls Changing History." Few people know of the extensive impact that numerous young women have had on our country throughout its history.

They do not know of Betty Zane, who, as she ran for ammunition, almost magically defied the arrows of warriors attacking a western Virginia fort. They've never heard of Eliza Pinckney, who managed three plantations as a teenager and transformed the colonial economy with her botanical experiments."

Until the museum is able to get the necessary permission to erect a building, it provides a variety of these and other educational resources online.

FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE <http://bit.ly/DKGUSF>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate
White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.

