

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Statement on Retirement of U.S. Representative Niki Tsongas



**WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 10, 2017)** — Daughters of Penelope Grand President Eva Jean Fomalont has issued the following statement:

Congresswoman Niki Tsongas announced she will not seek re-election and will retire at the conclusion of the 115th Congress.

The congresswoman's election to the U.S. House of Representatives ten years ago was noteworthy, marking the first time in 25 years that Massachusetts elected a woman to Congress.

The Daughters of Penelope salutes her exemplary public service, which included her active membership in the Congressional Hellenic Caucus and the Congressional Hellenic Israel Alliance. However, we are equally proud of her membership in the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, where she advocated for victims of crime, including domestic violence. Moreover, Congresswoman Tsongas' extraordinary policy work on the House Armed Services Committee included bipartisan-backed legislation that enacted reforms to better prevent and respond to incidents of sexual assault in the military.

In sum, we are thankful for Congresswoman Tsongas's public service, her unwavering interest in the community service and education programs the Daughters of Penelope administers, and of course, her strong support for the American Hellenic community. It was always a pleasure for our leadership to meet with Congresswoman Tsongas, who displayed an eagerness to do so and to be kept informed. We wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

The mission of the DOP is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

For more information about the DOP, or any of its programs or projects, please visit [www.daughtersofpenelope.org](http://www.daughtersofpenelope.org)

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