

County. Her efforts have brought together a strong, diverse community connected through faith. Since its first meeting on September 12, 2009, the Ecumenical Prayer Hour, now called the Community Hour of Prayer Group, has dramatically expanded to include over 20 churches representing numerous denominations.

Mother Gloria Edwards has had a significant impact on Washtenaw County through her leadership and support of community outreach organizations. Noted for her loving and nurturing personality, she teaches and counsels women in her congregation and the greater Washtenaw community. We thank Mother Gloria Edwards for her exemplary service to Washtenaw County and continued leadership. Her work stands as a role model of generosity and compassion and demonstrates a tremendous love for her community and her faith.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mother Gloria Edwards for her exceptional work. She has effectively served the residents of Washtenaw County by providing guidance and counsel through faith.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 2740

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2740, the minibus appropriations bill, which includes funding for Energy and Water Development. I applaud the Committee's addition of funds for the programs of the Army Corps of Engineers, especially for continuation of flood control work in my district, which includes Sacramento and West Sacramento. The bill contains funds for continuation of construction of levees in the Natomas Basin and for continuation of design of the West Sacramento Project. Those initiatives are essential steps in providing adequate protection for my constituents, who live in one of the most flood-prone areas in the country.

I also strongly support the Committee's inclusion of additional undesignated funds that the Corps of Engineers will distribute through a Work Plan to be developed after the bill is signed into law. Furthermore, I appreciate the Committee's allowance for six undesignated construction "New Starts," which is critically important to West Sacramento. As the bill moves forward, I urge the continued inclusion of robust funding for a Work Plan and of an adequate number of New Starts for flood control to address these needs.

My district can benefit immensely from these provisions. The Corps has recently indicated that additional funds will be needed in Fiscal Year 2020 for the Natomas Project due to cost increases and weather delays. Additionally, it is my understanding that the West Sacramento Project is making very good progress and will soon be positioned for a New Start and accompanying initial construction funding. With this in mind, I plan to continue working with the leadership of the Corps of Engineers, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and the West Sacramento Area Flood control Agency to determine the optimum funding and New Start designation for my communities.

HONORING THE WORK OF WILLIAM HENRY SIMONS, III, AND THE WILLIAM HENRY SIMONS, III, SCHOLARSHIP FUND

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the work of William Henry Simons, III, and the William Henry Simons, III, Scholarship Fund.

On Saturday, June 22, the Washington Teachers' Union (WTU), which represents educators in the District of Columbia's public schools, will re-name its scholarship fund the William Henry Simons, III, Scholarship Fund in honor of one of D.C.'s most important leaders, William Henry Simons, III, who passed away in 2016. This scholarship has been making contributions to the District of Columbia since 1974. The Scholarship Fund is dedicated to encouraging D.C.'s best and brightest students to pursue careers in education and support the next generation of D.C. teachers. I am particularly pleased and honored to offer this resolution not only because of Simons' much deserved merit as a teacher and a union leader but also because he was my history teacher when I attended Banneker High School here in the District.

In 1972, WTU, under the leadership of Simons, called a strike of D.C. Public School teachers to protest pay and working conditions. The strike violated D.C. law prohibiting strikes by public employees, and a fine of \$50,000 was imposed on the union. Simons asked the court to use the money to benefit D.C. public school students. The request went to the D.C. Superior Court, which in 1974, granted Simons his request. That was the beginning of the WTU Scholarship Fund Program. Since 1974, the Fund has awarded scholarships totaling more than \$1,000,000 to over 100 D.C. public school students.

Simons was born in D.C. in 1924 and attended segregated D.C. public schools. In 1943, he interrupted his studies at Miner Teachers College to serve in World War II. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, as a sergeant major in the 262nd Quartermasters Battalion, Simons was one of the heroes who stormed Normandy and helped bring about the end of Nazi oppression. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Croix de Guerre for his courage. After the war, Simons completed his education and began an 18-year career as a social studies teacher at Banneker Junior High in D.C.

Simons was elected president of WTU in 1964 and served for a total of 25 years. During his tenure as president, Simons was a champion of D.C. home rule and fought against plans that would have de facto re-segregated D.C. schools. He was also a pioneer in fighting for educational equity and the right of every D.C. public school student to receive the educational opportunities they needed to succeed, regardless of their race, ethnicity, immigration status or economic circumstances.

He was an observer at the first democratic elections in South Africa, a college lecturer, writer and consultant, and in 1995, he was appointed treasurer of the prestigious Association for the Study of African American Life and History, which was founded by the legendary historian Carter G. Woodson.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in commending and celebrating the life and legacy of William Henry Simons, III, and in congratulating the Washington Teachers' Union for re-naming its scholarship fund in his honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, in the afternoon of June 20, 2019, I voted in favor of Rep. GOLDEN of Maine's Part B Amendment No. 70 to H.R. 3055, stating that none of the funds in the underlying bill may be used for NOAA to utilize a North Atlantic right whale Risk Reduction Decision Support Tool (Roll Call No. 372).

I intended to vote against this amendment.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF MARTIN TELLER AT THE FINGER LAKES AREA COUNSELING AND RECOVERY AGENCY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 21, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Martin Teller to the Finger Lakes Area Counseling and Recovery Agency and congratulate him on his retirement.

For the last thirty-three years, Marty Teller has served as the Executive Director of Finger Lakes Area Counseling and Recovery Agency (FLACRA). His dedicated service and wealth of experience has ensured the highest of quality service, that FLACRA is known for, to people struggling with substance abuse. FLACRA offers a unique Continuum of Care for their clients, providing services such as addictions crisis counseling, outpatient services, community residences, supportive living, housing, and care management.

In addition to his thirty-three years as the Executive Director of FLACRA, Marty had previously worked for fifteen years in chemical dependency agency management. His extensive experience in aiding those struggling with substance abuse has made him a leader on the issue in the community and statewide. Marty serves on the Boards of the New York Association of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Providers, Common Ground Health, and the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System. He has also served in leadership roles in the Finger Lakes Housing Consortium, the Region II Consortium of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, and Recovery Net.

As Marty moves forward with the next chapter of his life, we applaud his tireless efforts to help those struggling with substance abuse in our communities and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate Marty Teller and his extraordinary career.