

After law school, Mr. Williams went into private practice until 1978, when he was appointed as the United States attorney for the Northern District of Ohio by President Jimmy Carter. Six years later, he was appointed as judge for the Akron Municipal Court and elected to that court in 1985 and 1987.

Judge Williams became the first Black judge to serve on the Summit County Court of Common Pleas when he was appointed to the bench in 1989. He was elected three more times, serving the people of Summit County, including presiding over several high-profile cases of national importance.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I had the opportunity to work with Judge Williams when I was a summer law clerk at the Akron Municipal Court, and he was a tough but fair jurist. He reminded me that coming to the court, you will see people who are experiencing perhaps the worst day of their life, and you have to remember that your job is to provide justice and kindness to those before you.

Judge Williams' distinguished service continued in his private life as a civil rights activist and leader for many civic organizations, including as secretary of the Akron NAACP and vice-president of the Ohio NAACP.

□ 1500

Mr. Speaker, on a special note, Judge Williams was elected as the 25th general president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the oldest intercollegiate fraternity for Black men, where he was the principal founder of the Alpha Phi Alpha Homes, Incorporated, a visionary nonprofit responsible for building 1,600 housing units in northeast Ohio, including low-income and senior housing units in 10 northeast Ohio communities.

Today is Alpha Phi Alpha's 118th celebration. I can't think of a more fitting way to recognize the fraternity and its 25th general president than with the naming of this post office.

Judge Williams was a legal luminary whose unwavering dedication to justice paved the way for future generations of leaders in Akron and across the country. I am proud to lead the effort to rename the Wolf Ledges Post Office in Akron to honor his memory and to serve as a reminder of the ongoing impact of his legacy on our community.

Sadly, Judge Williams passed away in 2020. Upon his passing, his wife, Jewell, offered these words from an old hymn that summed up his character which said: May the work I have done speak for me. May the service I give speak for me.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and all of my colleagues will join me in honoring Judge James Williams' lifetime of accomplishments and legacy of service by voting in favor of this bill.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am pre-

pared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge the passage of H.R. 9322, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my House colleagues to support this bill to acknowledge the great life of Judge Williams and all of the service that he gave his community.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9322.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAYOR ROB GORDON POST OFFICE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9421) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Main Street in Bucoda, Washington, as the "Mayor Rob Gordon Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9421

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MAYOR ROB GORDON POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Main Street in Bucoda, Washington, shall be known and designated as the "Mayor Rob Gordon Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Mayor Rob Gordon Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which honors Mayor Rob Gordon by naming a post office in his memory.

Mayor Gordon was a lifelong resident of southwest Washington. He was elect-

ed mayor of Bucoda, a town of approximately 580 residents, in May 2021, and served until his passing.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9421.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. PEREZ) for any remarks she may have.

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Rob Gordon of Bucoda, who passed away this June after a 7-month battle with stomach cancer. Rob Gordon was born in Centralia, Washington, and remained a lifelong, loyal resident of southwest Washington. He was elected mayor of Bucoda, a town of about 580 people, in May of 2021, and served as its mayor until his passing.

Before and during his tenure as mayor, Rob was the assistant chief of the Bucoda Fire Department where he had been serving as a firefighter since he was 16 years old.

In addition to his decades of public service, Mayor Gordon also worked for his family's company, which he co-owned with his brother, driving dump trucks and log trucks. Outside of work, he enjoyed raising cattle on his family farm, collecting old International Tractors, and he passed down his love of fixing stuff to his children, Jakob and Anna.

It is fitting to rename this post office after Rob, a place where rural neighbors convene and routine and profound work is done quietly, diligently, and honorably. Honor, diligence, and community were all qualities that Rob exemplified.

On behalf of Rob's family, his fellow firefighters, and friends across Bucoda and southwest Washington, and with the support of the Bucoda Town Council and Thurston County Board of Commissioners, it is my privilege to lead this bill to honor Rob's life of service.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to its being signed into law. I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 9421, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor Mayor Gordon, a man deeply committed to his community, by supporting this postal naming.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9421.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELIZABETH FURSE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9549) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 South 1st Avenue in Hillsboro, Oregon, as the "Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9549

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ELIZABETH FURSE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 South 1st Avenue in Hillsboro, Oregon, shall be known and designated as the "Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which would rename a post office in Oregon after Elizabeth Furse. Ms. Furse was the first woman to be elected to Oregon's First District and the first African-born person to win a seat in the House of Representatives from Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9549.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) for any remarks she may have.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 9549, to designate the Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building in Hillsboro, Oregon. I thank all of my Oregon colleagues for their support on this bill.

Elizabeth Furse served northwest Oregon in Congress for 6 years. She was the first woman elected to represent Oregon's First Congressional District which I am now honored to represent.

When she was first elected, Elizabeth was only one of 48 women in the House.

Today, there are 127 women, thanks in part to the courageous example set by Elizabeth and other early congresswomen.

Elizabeth Furse was raised in a family that valued service and justice. Her father served in the British Navy when she was growing up in Nairobi, Kenya. Her mother launched an anti-apartheid women's group, and her grandmother was a commandant of the British Red Cross Voluntary Aid during World War II. Elizabeth knew that government has the power protect civil rights or to threaten them.

Beginning at her first anti-apartheid march when she was only 15 years old, she continued her family's legacy of service by advocating for those at the margins and continuing through her work, speaking on this very floor of the House of Representatives, where she championed the issues of human rights and social justice.

Elizabeth believed that Congress should look like the country it represents. Good policy comes when people of diverse backgrounds and experience shape it. We have come closer to that goal, but we have further to go.

Representative Furse came to Congress to advocate for meaningful change. She fought for Tribal sovereignty, social justice, and peace. She inspired dedication to worthy causes including cofounding the Oregon Peace Institute. She embodied the traits public servants should strive to uphold.

Elizabeth assisted countless people during her time in Congress and throughout her life. Her many achievements include helping the Grand Ronde, Klamath, and Coquille Tribes gain Federal recognition. That work meant a lot to her, and it certainly meant a lot to the Tribes.

She increased access to public transportation in our region by extending the light rail service to Hillsboro, and she was one of the original founders of the bipartisan Congressional Diabetes Caucus.

Elizabeth was a trailblazer and an inspiration to many, including me. She dedicated her life to service, bolstering the lives of people in northwest Oregon. I am privileged to have been able to call her a mentor and a friend.

Elizabeth lived many places before she came to Oregon in 1978, but she made our State her home. She will always be remembered as one of the smart, courageous women who shaped Oregon today.

When she faced adversity, she overcame it and opened the door for others to walk through. She pursued a non-traditional career path, and she fought tirelessly for justice.

I am honored to support this legislation to recognize her contributions to northwest Oregon by naming this post office, which is close to the home where she spent her final days, in her honor so people will be inspired by her example for years to come.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 20 seconds to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I know that I will continue to draw inspiration from her legacy and her commitment to justice.

On behalf of her friends, family, and former constituents, I request that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle support this important bill.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 9549, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to honor Elizabeth Furse by supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9549.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MILLIE DUNN VEASEY POST OFFICE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9580) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2777 Brentwood Road in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Millie Dunn Veasey Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9580

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MILLIE DUNN VEASEY POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2777 Brentwood Road in Raleigh, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Millie Dunn Veasey Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Millie Dunn Veasey Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?