

body with her doctor. H.R. 5894 prohibits funding to Planned Parenthood, eliminates funding for Title X Family Planning, and makes a \$35 million cut to the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.

Supporting our children and families is the bare minimum of what our government should do for its people. This bill fails at every level to do so. Instead of reevaluating their extreme funding bills and working together with Democrats to create legislation that will improve American lives, House Republicans are distracted by their own chaos and are intent on placating the most extreme in their caucus. For these reasons and more, I must oppose H.R. 5894 and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

RECOGNIZING 2023 BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION RECIPIENT GREATER LATROBE SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GUY RESCENTIALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. RESCENTIALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Greater Latrobe School District for being recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as one of the best communities for music education in 2023.

The NAMM Foundation celebrates schools and school districts by recognizing their ability to train and educate the next generation of musicians. 830 school districts, including Greater Latrobe School District, were recognized for the outstanding efforts of their teachers, administrators, parents, and students.

According to NAMM, over 3 million children did not have access to proper music education in 2019. Every student deserves a chance to learn and develop their artistic capabilities, and Greater Latrobe School District's continuous efforts undoubtedly help our children in Southwest Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate Greater Latrobe School District on this momentous occasion.

HONORING TIERRA DEL SOL HOUSING CORPORATION ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GABE VASQUEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation and commemorate their 50th anniversary. Tierra del Sol has proudly been serving the needs of low-income families in my district since 1973 and has promoted economic and social empowerment through homeownership programs, employment training, and access to financial resources. Their work has helped ensure financial security for New Mexican families and build stable communities where all can thrive.

Throughout their 50 years of service, Tierra del Sol has instituted various programs to as-

sist rural New Mexicans. From rural farm rental housing to supportive housing for the elderly to major subdivision developments, Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation has tirelessly worked towards their mission.

In recent years, Tierra del Sol has led the construction of single-family housing under their self-help housing program. That recent construction has allowed community members access to affordable housing and energy-efficient living, putting New Mexico well on the road to becoming a leader in clean energy practices. As we look to the future, I am confident that Tierra del Sol will continue to find innovative ways to reach out to New Mexicans, while promoting the health of our State more broadly.

On behalf of the great people of New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District, I thank Tierra del Sol for their service to the people of New Mexico and congratulate them on celebrating 50 years of service. Their work has made our community stronger, safer, and more prosperous, and I am excited to see what they accomplish for generations to come.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN BRANDON, PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARION COUNTY COMMISSION ON YOUTH

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of John Brandon, President and Executive Director of the Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY), who will enter his retirement at the end of this year.

For 45 years, John has dedicated his life to youth development, leading positive changes in local programs and agencies and at larger city, state, and national systemic levels. As an adjunct professor at the undergraduate and graduate levels, an agency director focused on increased opportunities for young people, and a trainer and facilitator for youth workers' continued education John has nurtured Indianapolis' young people in countless ways.

John's legacy is one of advocacy and empowerment. He has been instrumental in guiding projects and initiatives aimed at the development of our youth, including a city-wide youth employment effort, developing more support and services for unhoused youth, and reforming our child welfare system to be more family-focused. Under John's leadership, MCCOY has been an instrumental partner in my yearly Youth Opportunities Fair, which connects young people to employment, internships, and other programs during the summer months. His passionate belief that young people must be part of the systems that impact them is evidenced through youth participation on MCCOY's board and the agency's facilitation of the Mayor's Youth Council.

Active in his community, John has served on numerous community-based nonprofit boards, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Multiservice Center, the Indiana Afterschool Network, and the Hawthorn Community Center. At a national level, John dedicated a decade to the Partnership for America's Children's board of directors.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John Brandon as he enters this new chapter filled with cycling, reading, and family. We celebrate his legacy of outstanding accomplishments as we continue to ensure a brighter future for our nation's youth.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment that was included in the En Bloc amendment to the FY 2024 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education funding bill.

My amendment would recognize the success of the TRIO program.

The TRIO program provides low-income, first-generation college students' with academic financial and social support.

TRIO has produced more than 6 million college graduates—including me.

When I was 18 years old and beginning college, I became pregnant with my daughter. As a single mother, it felt nearly impossible to complete my degree.

But Marquette University's TRIO program provided the support I needed to reach my potential.

TRIO championed me, and now as a Member of Congress, I can champion them.

Because without TRIO I would not be here in these halls today.

And it goes to show how high someone can climb if they are given the chance.

November 8 was First Generation College Student Day—a now annual celebration focusing on the need to help first-generation college students, faculty, staff, and alumni succeed in every possible way, a goal that TRIO is working everyday to help achieve.

I am so proud to stand here today, as a TRIO alum, as a TRIO Caucus Chair, and as a Member of Congress, to advocate for this program.

I know the Ranking Member understands very well the value of this program and greatly appreciate her support for its inclusion in this En Bloc.

RECOGNIZING 2023 BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION RECIPIENT KISKI AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GUY RESCENTIALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. RESCENTIALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Kiski Area School District for being recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as one of the best communities for music education in 2023.

The NAMM Foundation celebrates schools and school districts by recognizing their ability

to train and educate the next generation of musicians, 830 school districts, including Kiski Area School District, were recognized for the outstanding efforts of their teachers, administrators, parents, and students.

According to NAMM, over 3 million children did not have access to proper music education in 2019. Every student deserves a chance to learn and develop their artistic capabilities, and Kiski Area School District's continuous efforts undoubtedly help our children in Southwest Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate Kiski Area School District on this momentous occasion.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF LONNIE MCKISSIC, SR.

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life of a mid-Michigan icon who was a builder in every sense of the word. Lonnie McKissic, Sr. passed away on November 3, 2023, but the legacy he worked so hard to construct in his 88 years on this planet—physically, emotionally, and spiritually—lives on in this community and in the many lives he touched.

Lonnie was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi, in 1935, the son of Robert and Myrtle McKissic, and his early years were by no means easy. His father passed away when he was just a toddler, and Lonnie was only able to attend school through the third grade. Though still a child, he was sent to work in the cotton fields, and later at a mill yard, to help support the family. He was just 16 years old when he married the love of his life, Odell, and shortly after the two made the move north to Lansing, Michigan.

When Lonnie picked up his first construction job at age 18 in Lansing, he likely didn't know he was laying the foundation for his future. After years of hard work and learning the ins and outs of the industry, in 1969 he was ready to make a go on his own and launched the family business: McKissic and Sons Construction. Not only did the company break ground on numerous homes, churches, and well-known Lansing-area buildings, Lonnie broke barriers by becoming one of the first Black contractors in the region.

Over the years he also built a large and loving family, raising six sons, three daughters, and ten grandchildren, and prided himself on passing the trade to younger generations. Today, the construction company continues with his son Michael at the helm. In addition, Michael shares his father's lessons with the community through his non-profit, which teaches construction skills to young people in an effort to provide a meaningful path for the future that can help turn the tide of violence in the Lansing area.

A man of profound faith, Lonnie was deeply involved with Mt. Zion All Nations Church, where his 69 years of devotion earned him the title of longest-serving member. During that time, he held various other titles, including Chairman of the Board, Deacon, Vice-Chair of the Executive Council, Elder, and choir mem-

ber. He mentored hundreds of young people over the years, and was known as a spiritual father to many.

In everything he did, Lonnie McKissic used his hands, his heart, and his life to build up the community. Brick by brick, word by word, lesson by lesson, he laid out a blueprint for what it means to be a servant leader, and constructed his life on a bedrock of faith, family, and hard work. I send my condolences to his family, and ask that we now dedicate ourselves to building upon his memory, which will live on in Lansing.

RECOGNIZING THE PORTERVILLE
ELKS LODGE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Porterville Elks Lodge on their 100-year anniversary and thank them for their significant contributions to the Porterville community. The Porterville Elks Lodge was established in 1923 on Porterville's Main Street.

For more than a century, the lodge has served as a meeting place for residents of the community and the home of the Porterville Elks Lodge Club. The club's unwavering commitment to public service and the Porterville community has guided its mission since the lodge's founding. Today, the club has 149 members, all of whom dedicate their time to giving back to and investing in the local community. The club is passionate about the well-being of Porterville's residents and focuses many of their efforts on helping children and veterans

Last year, the club raised more than \$32,000 for the Purple Pig Major Project—the second-largest contribution from the California delegation of clubs. The project's funds are used to support disabled youth with the medical treatments and therapies they need to thrive. Through their affiliation with the Elks National Foundation, the Porterville Elks Lodge Club has also awarded students throughout the community with scholarships to support their academic goals and connected veterans and servicemembers with rehabilitation services.

During the recent flooding in California, the Porterville Elks Lodge Club worked with the Central California Family Crisis Center and Parenting Network to donate jackets, baby formula, and other items to residents in need. Their efforts were critical in helping families in my district recover from the devastating storms. The club's longstanding history of service is ingrained in the fabric of the Porterville community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the Porterville Elks Lodge on their 100-year anniversary. Their work to enrich the community of Porterville will be felt for generations to come.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
WYNONA LIPMAN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a great trailblazer from my district, Wynona Lipman, on what would have been her 100th birthday. Born in 1923, Mrs. Lipman was the first African-American woman to be elected to the New Jersey State Senate when she won her seat in 1971. She served the 29th Legislative District for 27 years, the Senate's longest-serving member at the time of her death in 1999.

Before she was a political trailblazer, Mrs. Lipman was a teacher. She taught French at Morehouse College and tutored a famous civil rights advocate, Martin Luther King, Jr. She left that position to pursue a Ph.D. degree at Columbia University. During her time at Columbia, Mrs. Lipman earned a Fulbright fellowship to study at the Sorbonne in Paris for two years. When she returned, Mrs. Lipman finished her Ph.D. degree and eventually moved to Montclair, New Jersey, where she became an associate professor at Essex County College.

In Montclair, Mrs. Lipman became active in local politics. In 1968, she won her first election to become an Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholder, where she became President of the Board in 1971. Then Mrs. Lipman ran for the New Jersey State Senate and defeated Republican Senator Milton Waldor by less than 1,000 votes out of 170,000 cast. During her 27 years in the State Senate, Mrs. Lipman was often the only woman serving there and worked diligently to protect the LGBTQ+ community and children on the Governor's Advisory Council on AIDS and Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Mrs. Lipman's tireless efforts to serve her district earned her induction into the New Jersey's "Women's Hall of Fame" in 1998. Today, her legacy is supported throughout the area. There is the Wynona Lipman Ethnic Studies Center at Kean University, the Wynona Lipman Chairholder at the Center for American Women in Politics and Rutgers University, the Wynona Lipman Child Advocacy Center (known as Wynona's House) for abused children in Newark, and the future Wynona Lipman Courthouse in Essex County. Next week, there will be an exhibit titled "Stronger than Steel: The Wynona Lipman Story" at the New Jersey Historical Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating her life of public service and her legacy in New Jersey politics.

RECOGNIZING 2023 BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION RECIPIENT HEMPFIELD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Hempfield Area School District