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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To express the sense of Congress regarding the naming of a naval aircraft carrier for Mess Attendant Third Class Doris “Dorie” Miller, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. DINGELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To express the sense of Congress regarding the naming of a naval aircraft carrier for Mess Attendant Third Class Doris “Dorie” Miller, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “U.S.S. Doris Miller
5 Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NAMING OF**
2 **NAVAL AIRCRAFT CARRIER FOR MESS AT-**
3 **TENDANT THIRD CLASS DORIS “DORIE” MIL-**
4 **LER.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that the Secretary of the Navy should name an air-
7 craft carrier of the United States Navy the “Doris Miller”
8 in honor of Mess Attendant Third Class Doris “Dorie”
9 Miller, for the acts of valor described in subsection (b)
10 and in line with the Navy’s 2020 announcement to name
11 a future Ford class aircraft carrier after Doris Miller.

12 (b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor
13 described in this subsection are the actions of Doris
14 “Dorie” Miller, as a member of the United States Navy,
15 as follows:

16 (1) Following Dorie Miller’s birth to Connery
17 and Henrietta Miller, sharecroppers in Waco, Texas,
18 he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1939, as
19 a Mess Attendant, one of the few positions open to
20 African Americans in the Navy.

21 (2) On December 7, 1941, Miller was serving
22 aboard the USS West Virginia in Pearl Harbor
23 when Japan attacked. He moved the wounded cap-
24 tain of USS West Virginia to safety, and then de-
25 spite lacking proper training, he took control of an
26 anti-aircraft gun and brought down attacking Japa-

1 nese aircraft. Even as the ship began to sink, he
2 only abandoned his position when he ran out of am-
3 munition.

4 (3) After the gun ran out of ammunition, Miller
5 assisted in evacuating sailors after the order to
6 abandon ship and was one of the last three men to
7 leave the vessel as it sank.

8 (4) In March of 1942, Representative John
9 Dingell, Sr. introduced a bill in the House of Rep-
10 resentatives to award to Dorie Miller the Medal of
11 Honor, the Nation's highest military decoration.

12 (5) In May of 1942, Miller was presented with
13 the Navy Cross by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, mak-
14 ing Miller the first Black sailor to receive such an
15 honor.

16 (6) Miller's image was used for Navy recruit-
17 ment posters, and he was recalled to the United
18 States for a war bonds tour before returning to ac-
19 tive service in the Pacific on a new carrier, the USS
20 Liscome Bay.

21 (7) On November 24, 1943, Miller was killed in
22 action when his carrier was hit by a torpedo during
23 the Gilbert Islands Campaign.