

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 22, 2020

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
442 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Peters:

We write in support of H.R. 4975, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, as the “Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building.”

Mrs. Dorothy Braden Bruce was born on June 20, 1920, in Lynchburg, Virginia, where she was raised. She graduated from Randolph-Macon Women’s College in 1942 and began her career as a school teacher. As World War II raged, Mrs. Bruce was recruited to serve as a cryptanalyst, or codebreaker, in a top-secret group called the Army Signal Corps’ Signal Intelligence Service. Mrs. Bruce and thousands of other women in the Service worked to decipher the codes sent to enemy supply ships in the Pacific Theater. Her efforts helped disclose the locations of Japanese ships, disrupt enemy supply chains, and protect the lives of America’s servicemembers.

Despite Mrs. Bruce’s remarkable efforts in an operation key to Allied success in the Pacific Theater, she kept her role as a codebreaker a secret for over 70 years of her life while she continued to humbly serve others in her Midlothian, Virginia, community. Mrs. Bruce passed away on June 25, 2019, at 99 years old after finally being recognized publicly for her role as a codebreaker in 2017.

Naming this post office after Mrs. Bruce would reflect long overdue gratitude for the pioneering codebreaking efforts that she and thousands of other women contributed during World War II. We are proud to offer our support for this bill and appreciate your consideration of this legislation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Marshall at Lauren_Marshall@warner.senate.gov or Donald Pollard at Donald_Pollard@kaine.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator