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Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson:

On behalf of ASME, I would like to commend you for introducing H.R. 1396, the “Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act”. This legislation would award Congress’s highest civilian honor to the women working as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and its precursor organization, the National Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), from the 1930s to the 1970s. We thank you for your leadership in championing this important legislation and look forward to working with you to support its enactment.

Founded in 1880 as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, ASME is a more than 100,000-member professional organization focused on technical, educational and research issues of the engineering and technology community. ASME is committed to achieving a truly diverse and inclusive science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce in the U.S. and all over the world.

The U.S. economy relies on the productivity, creativity, and entrepreneurship of all U.S. citizens. ASME is pleased that these women, who made significant contributions to aircraft testing and design during World War II, supersonic flight research, and landing the first man on the moon while persevering and overcoming discrimination, are getting the recognition they deserve.

Again, we applaud you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to support this critical legislation. If you, or your staff, have any questions or would desire more information, please contact Kathryn Holmes, Director of Government Relations, at 202-785-7390 or holmesk@asme.org.

Best Regards,

Thomas Costabile, P.E.
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