

MICHAEL F. BENNET
COLORADO



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

June 10, 2015

Dear Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Nomination Committee:

Thank you for considering Zipporah Parks Hammond for the 2015 Colorado Women's Hall of Fame. Our office is pleased to write this letter recognizing her resilience, leadership, and significant contributions to the state of Colorado and nation. As an African American woman, Zipporah faced oppression related to her race and gender, challenges that made her more resilient and determined to succeed.

After graduating from Manual Training High School in 1941, Zipporah was accepted into the School of Nursing at the University of Colorado Boulder, becoming the first African American woman to graduate from this prestigious institution. Throughout her years of schooling, Zipporah understood the necessity to excel in her field of study in order to accomplish her goals. Zipporah demonstrated her resilience when she joined the Cadet Nursing Corps during WW-II, where she showed that in spite of institutional and societal barriers, serving the needs of others and her country were her priority. Her passion for assisting others was also evidenced by her professional work with the Tuskegee Institute as a Chief Orthopedic Surgical Nurse in the Infantile Paralysis Center, and her personal work, for more than ten years, as a volunteer at the Denver Public Library.

Zipporah's professional work and service to her Colorado community and country make her a leader. Zipporah has had a tremendous impact on the lives of others. She is an inspiration to our community as her legacy has left a lasting impression. Her accomplishments live on through the Zipporah Parks Hammond endowed scholarship at CU College of Nursing. Zipporah's outstanding achievements and character makes her an excellent candidate for the 2015 Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter. Zipporah Parks Hammond's story is one that we all should keep in our hearts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Bennet".

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator