

HONORING KIRK LINDSEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kirk Lindsey for his dedication to his family and community. Mr. Lindsey passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at Doctors Medical Hospital in Modesto, California surrounded by friends and family. Mr. Lindsey was 62 years old.

Kirk Lindsey was born on May 12, 1947 in San Jose, California, to Robert and Carol Lindsey. He attended Abilene Christian University where he earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Administration. He also participated in the Masters of Business Administration program at Pepperdine University. In 1969, Mr. Lindsey was commissioned into the United States Army after completing ROTC at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. After serving in Korea Mr. Lindsey returned to California in 1971.

Mr. Lindsey became President of Brite Transportation System, Incorporated, in Riverbank, California; a company he founded in 1972. Brite Transportation was created to transport agricultural products and products of preservation. In 1976, Mr. Lindsey became the Managing General Partner of B&P Bulk, also an agricultural trucking company. Between the two companies there are offices currently operating in Riverbank, El Centro, Hanford and Woodland, California.

Mr. Lindsey was always very involved with his community. At the time of his passing, he served on the California Transportation Commission which is responsible for the programming and allocation of funds for the construction of highway, passenger rail and transit improvements throughout California. He was appointed to this position by former Governor Gray Davis on November 10, 2000, and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on April 7, 2004 (reappointed on February 14, 2008). He had previously served as commissioner of that organization. He was the current chairman of the Stanislaus County Private Industry Council, President of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce and a past President of the California Trucking Association. Mr. Lindsey was a founding member of the Riverbank Chamber of Commerce, served as Vice-President of the California Casualty Insurance Board and served on the Board of Directors of Parkridge Christian Estates. He worked closely with the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance and the California Workforce Investment Board.

Mr. Lindsey placed a special emphasis on education. He was the founder and President of the Beyer High School Educational Foundation. He served on the school's accreditation committee, was past President of the Beyer Booster Club and was a committee member for the Beyer Crab Feed for eighteen years. This past school year Mr. Lindsey completed his twentieth year as Beyer High School's boys and girls swimming and water polo coach. Outside of the school, he served on board of the Stanislaus Partnership in Education.

Through all of his community involvement, he made time for family, church and travel. His passion was traveling; he visited over sev-

enty-five countries. He was a member of the Davis Park Church of Christ since 1972.

Mr. Lindsey was preceded in death by his father. He is survived by his mother, Carol Lindsey of San Jose; his wife, Cyndi of Modesto; his sister Anne Lucier of Sacramento; his daughters, Shannon Suesens and her husband John of Sacramento, Whitney Lindsey and Tiffany Lindsey of Modesto and Ashleigh Lindsey of Portland, Oregon; and grandson Brendan Suesens of Sacramento. He is also survived by his nieces, Christine and Courtney Lucier of Sacramento, Stacy Gorton of Seattle, Washington and his grand-nephew Cameron Lucier of Sacramento.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Kirk Lindsey. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Lindsey's life and wishing the best for his family.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2847, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

This legislation will fund the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and several other independent agencies. These collective agencies and departments allow our nation to continue to invest in critical science research, like climate change, education, and state and local law enforcement.

At a time when our nation is in need of rebuilding, and our communities to be made safer for our children, this bill will provide \$3.4 billion for state and local law enforcement and crime prevention grants, including more than \$800 million for Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), to help keep our streets and neighborhoods safer, \$400 million for the Office on Violence Against Women, and \$2 billion for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

To help these children grow up in a safe environment, and move into adulthood with the opportunity that a better education will present, the bill offers \$1 billion for Science Education, and over \$18 billion for NASA. Overall, it provides nearly \$31 billion for science as part of a commitment to America's innovation and competitiveness.

A vote in support of this bill is a vote in favor of our security, our liberty, and the hope of our future through education.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 2847.

FATHERS DAY 2009

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, as we recognize Fathers Day 2009, probably never before has fatherhood been so challenged. The traditional position of fathers in American society and in the family as an institution is in serious trouble.

On a recent flight back to Washington I happened to open a local newspaper to birth notices. Nearly half of the births recorded were out of wedlock and about a dozen of the birth notices did not identify a father. In fact, today 28% of Caucasian, 51% Hispanic, and 70% African American children are born out of wedlock, while white males face a challenging role, their African American counterparts' fatherhood role has been dramatically eroded.

As we reflect on the plight of fatherhood in our community some sobering facts reveal a crisis that cannot and should not be ignored. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that not having a father has serious economic consequences. There are nearly twenty million children living in a single parent household. With no father present these households account for 45% of our poverty rate. The U.S. Department of Justice found that 46% of unwed mothers would leave poverty if they married the fathers of their children. A recent examination by the National Fatherhood Initiative revealed that African American newborns today are tremendously disadvantaged. Today, half of all children and 80% of African American children can expect to spend at least part of their childhood living apart from their fathers.

These staggering figures portray an absence in our society that is detrimental to our nation's youth. We must understand the consequences that result from denying our children a proper upbringing. Although Fathers Day is a time to celebrate and rejoice with our loved ones, we cannot forget about the increasing number of our children that are being raised without a father. Children growing up without a father are more likely to have behavioral problems, and be incarcerated. Those children are less likely to attend college, become married, and form healthy relationships.

Unfortunately this trend has become prevalent in our communities. As a result this problem has become repetitive through generations at an alarming rate. We must work to raise awareness of the positive effects fatherhood has on a child's life. We must also find ways to stem the decline of meaningful relationships between a father and his child in our society.

I recently read a commentary on The Importance of a Loving Father by Dr. Walter E. Barker, a Florida licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. "Fathers are very important to their sons' and daughters' development. A mother gives the child unconditional love and acceptance and the father's love is more conditional on the child's finding success and accomplishment out in the larger world. He wants his children to find what makes them happy and then take that gift and talent to make a contribution to the larger society. Fathers want their children to have a strong work ethic and to be willing to assert themselves in the world."

By supporting the family structure, better education and job training we can begin to reverse the diminished role of fathers in our country. We must all work to help raise awareness on this pressing issue. The importance of fatherhood should not be overlooked by our society if we are to ensure a promising future for the children in America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 405, a motion to reconsider, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING WALTER DICKERSON
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with both pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor the long and distinguished career of Walter Dickerson, on the occasion of his retirement as director of the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency.

Born in Claiborne, Maryland, Walt graduated from Robert Russa Moton High School in 1965. Following his graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps and went on to serve for 21 years, working his way up through the enlisted, warrant officer, and commissioned officer. He earned a Bachelor's degree in business management from National University. He retired from the Marine Corps after 21 years of service as a decorated Vietnam veteran.

Following his time in the Marines, Walt served as the Integrated Logistics Support Manager for the AAI Corporation and was the department head of Integrated Logistics Support at Teledyne Power Systems. In 1996, he joined the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency, where he has served in a number of capacities including plans and operations officer, director of plans and operations, and executive director and area director of homeland security.

Walt's true gift to the Mobile community was manifested through his efforts during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He received the Blacks in Government Port City Chapter Community Service Award for his contribution to the community following Hurricane Katrina, and he testified twice before Congress on Mobile's successful preparation and response to Hurricane Katrina. He was also recognized by the Alabama Senate, the Mobile County Commission, and the Mobile City Council for his performance during Hurricanes Ivan, Dennis, and Katrina.

Walt is a member of the Port City Chapter of Blacks in Government and the International Association of Emergency Managers. He is the past president of the Society of Logistics

Engineers as well as the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers. He is also greatly involved in the community serving as chairperson for the Tommie Agee Charity Foundation, vice president of the Gulf City Golfers Association, the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association, Summit to Advance Values in Education, and American Legion Post 77. He is a 32nd Mason and a Shriner. Walt is also a charter member of Mobile's Monford Pointe Marine Association.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. I am certain that his family, his many friends, and the countless people who have benefited from his hard work and dedication join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service to the city of Mobile and the state of Alabama. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish Walt the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 380, I was present the entire eight hours. Due to an apparent machine malfunction, I was not recorded as voting. This amendment is both fiscally responsible and addresses another excess in spending that continues to drive upward our national debt, crippling current economic growth and saddling future generations with an unacceptable burden which will strangle taxpayers and reduce critical essential benefits to social services, especially seniors.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize June 19, 2009, or "Juneteenth," the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

The observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day originated in Galveston, Texas in 1865, and is now celebrated around the United States. This day was chosen because it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free—a full two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation became official on January 1, 1863. The day was largely celebrated within African-American communities until the Civil Rights movement, when Reverend Ralph Abernathy called for people of all races, economic levels, and professions to come to Washington, D.C. to show support for the poor at the Poor People's March on Juneteenth in 1968. Many of the participants returned home and initiated Juneteenth celebrations in their own communities.

Every year, the celebration of Juneteenth grows in popularity across the United States. It is a day when we recognize and remember the evils of slavery and the suffering it caused. But it is also a day that celebrates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings. Participants of all races, nationalities and religions celebrate and take the time to reflect on the past and rejoice in the present and future.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to note that in California's 37th Congressional District the city of Carson, Compton, and Long Beach, which I am proud to represent, celebrated Juneteenth in a very special way. In Long Beach, The MusicUntold Orchestra and Chorus performed the Bicentennial Symphony, by composer Roy Harris, which is considered the most powerful musical statement ever made on slavery in the United States. Ollie Woodson, formally of the Temptations, performed at the Carson celebration and the Compton celebration featured Howard Hewitt and the Whispers.

As we celebrate Juneteenth, Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to recognize this day and take a moment to honor the women and men that dedicated their lives to ending slavery.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, for the entire legislative day of June 18, 2009, I have an excused absence to attend my son's school graduation. If I were present, I would have voted "no" on Rollcall votes No. 356, 359, 360, 361, 362, 364, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 385, 386, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, and 407.

I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall votes No. 357, 358, 363, 365, 371, 384, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, and 408.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, on Rollcall No. 356, I intended to vote "yes."

The motion would have struck \$97.4 million from the Federal Prison System in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010. It would have brought funding in line with the President's request.

I believe the level of spending in the underlying bill was irresponsible in light of the crushing level of debt that America is facing. This amendment was a small step in a broader effort that I supported to make this a fiscally responsible bill.