

I want to try to end this on a high note. I love this institution. I have devoted most of my life here in this building—not only as a long-time Member of the House and Senate, but I lived here while going to law school. I worked in this building. I was a cop here. I love this building and this institution. I don't want to do anything to denigrate the institution. Maybe there is blame to go around, and I think there probably is. But frustration builds upon frustration and, as a result of that, we have situations such as this.

So here is my suggestion. I think just as we had a cooling off period, as we indicated that we would on that FEMA CR—we had a cooling off period, and the Republican leader and I agreed that would be the right thing to do, and we then came back and worked something out. We did it very quickly. It wasn't to everybody's satisfaction. I had people upset and he had people upset, but we did that. So it would be my suggestion to do as I originally suggested. I think we should go ahead and do final passage on this matter on Tuesday night. Do the judge first, then vote on the jobs bill. Then we will deal with the trade stuff.

I am happy to not only sit down with the Republican leader, but I am sure we can all cinch up our belts and, as they say in the Old and New Testament, gird up our loins and try to do a better job of how we try to get along. I have talked to the Republican leader only briefly about this, but I had a discussion with my leadership today, and one of the things I was going to announce—and so here it is—one of the things I want to do is have a joint caucus. I want to have one with Democratic Senators and Republican Senators. At that time we can all talk about some of the frustrations we all have.

I wanted to do that the first week we got back after the last recess. All my people don't know about this, and certainly I haven't finalized this with the Republican leader, but I think that would be a good step forward; that Senator MCCONNELL and I could be there in front of everybody together, questions could be asked, statements could be made, and we could see if that would let a little air out of the tires.

I will be happy—next time we get closure on an event sometime in the future—to sit down and find out what, if anything, we should do postclosure on matters relating to people who are frustrated.

So that is my statement, Mr. President. I am not asking consent on anything, but I would hope we could all leave, and Senator MCCONNELL and I would direct the staff to come up with something, an arrangement comparable to what I just suggested.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will have no more votes, and I have confirmed that with the Republican leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Rev. Fred Lee Shuttlesworth, an American civil rights hero who lived much of his adult life in Cincinnati who passed away this week at the age of 89. I come to the floor in support of a resolution with Senator PORTMAN, my colleague from Cincinnati, where Reverend Shuttlesworth lived for many years, and also from Senator SHELBY and Senator SESSIONS, both representing Alabama, where Reverend Shuttlesworth lived his earliest several decades and then the end of his life.

Much is known about his life—the beatings, the bombings, the arrests and protests. He was born in 1922 in Alabama. He was a truckdriver who studied theology at night. He became an ordained minister in his twenties. By the 1950s, in his thirties, he was the pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham, the pulpit from which he became the powerful, fiery, outspoken leader against racial discrimination and injustice.

When the Alabama NAACP was banned in the State, Reverend Shuttlesworth established the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights. Churches held weekly meetings, membership grew month by month—in large part because of Reverend Shuttlesworth's leadership skills—and the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights became the mass movement for Blacks in the South.

He fought Birmingham's racism in the courtroom, bringing suits to desegregate public recreation facilities. He protested segregation of buses in Birmingham. He was beaten with chains and brass knuckles when he tried to enroll his children in a Birmingham school, even though he was, of course, a taxpayer. He would lead Freedom Riders to safety—a critical voice imploring Attorney General Robert Kennedy and President John F. Kennedy to get the Federal Government to show leadership as Freedom Riders were jailed and attacked. Reverend Shuttlesworth was often jailed and later left bruised and bloodied from

firehoses and police dogs, the brutal force of Bull Connor's lynch mob. His life and his family were threatened by Connor's ignorant hostility—or indifference more often than hostility.

His words:

They would call me SOB, and they didn't mean "sweet old boy. . . ." [T]he first time I saw brass knuckles was when they struck me . . . they missed me with dynamite because God made me dynamite.

So his direct action campaigned continued. He mobilized students to boycott merchants with Jim Crow signs in their storefronts. He worked and he marched with Dr. King, affiliating the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, organizing bus boycotts and sit-ins and marches and acts of civil disobedience. He persuaded Dr. King to bring the civil rights movement to Birmingham, where Dr. King would write his famous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." In the letter, Dr. King writes of the necessity of Reverend Shuttlesworth's direct action campaign, fighting "broken promises" and "blasted hopes." The two words "broken" and "blasted" meant so much to them personally because both were attacked so frequently.

In September 1963, the 16th Street Baptist Church was bombed, murdering four little girls, and the movement's grief and responsive resiliency helped pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The next year, he helped organize the historic march from Selma to Montgomery, across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, to fight voting discrimination in Alabama and across the South, galvanizing meeting after meeting with his fiery words. He soon arrived in Cincinnati, coming across the Ohio River, as pastor of the Greater New Light Baptist Church in Avondale.

He trained Freedom Riders in nearby Oxford, OH, at the Western Campus for Women then, now affiliated or absorbed by Miami of Ohio, one of our great State universities. He trained those Freedom Riders, thousands of activists who would travel south to register Black voters.

Reverend Shuttlesworth fought for racial equality in Cincinnati schools, in city councils and police departments, empowering low-income families through education, jobs, and housing for decades to come.

I would like to read from and ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the editorial from the Cincinnati Inquirer from October 5, 2011.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I would like to share a couple of words from the Cincinnati Inquirer. This is the beautifully written Cincinnati Inquirer editorial about Reverend Shuttlesworth:

He once told the Tampa Tribune it helped to have a "little divine insanity—that's when you're willing to suffer and die for something."

They also wrote:

Perhaps nowhere is his ultimate triumph more evident than in the renaming of the Birmingham airport to the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport—a public tribute in a city where once a Ku Klux Klan member who was a police officer warned him to get out of town as fast as he could.

Needless to say, the airport was named after Reverend Shuttleworth, not after the KKK police officer.

It was an honor to get to know Reverend Shuttleworth and to learn from him. In 1998, I first met this historic figure of the civil rights movement—unknown to far too many people—in Selma, AL, during a pilgrimage with Congressman JOHN LEWIS, who was beaten perhaps more than anybody in the civil rights movement. It was an opportunity to spend some time with Reverend Shuttleworth in Selma in the late 1990s.

I visited his church in 2006. I heard him preach, and then, at his retirement party a while after that—not too many years ago—I heard him preach again and got the chance to get a tour at his retirement party, a tour of the small museum in his modest church celebrating his life but more set up to honor and commemorate the civil rights movement in the most personal kind of way. It is impossible for me to really describe the feelings I had as he talked to a small group—Connie, my wife, and me—a small group of us as we toured this very small museum in a room at the church. It was just packed with all kinds of mementoes and commemorations of the civil rights movement and Reverend Shuttleworth's fight in those days in Alabama. From those pictures and his memory, you learn not just about a man's life but about our Nation's history.

The passage of the most basic civil rights laws would not have occurred without his vision and fortitude. We honor his legacy in his passing, but we are also charged with upholding a sacred duty to take his lead, and that is because progress in our Nation is never easy. Passage of voting rights or civil rights was not the result of one man's great speech in Washington or one famous march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

EXHIBIT 1

SHUTTLESWORTH 'TRULY A MAN OF COURAGE, CONVICTION AND INTEGRITY'

Cincinnati Enquirer Editorial, Oct. 5, 2011

In 1955, the Rev. Fred Shuttleworth was a young pastor in Birmingham, Ala., preaching sermons on equality and working in his segregated city on the issues before him, such as adding street lights to African-American neighborhoods.

But after he petitioned the Birmingham City Council to hire African-American police officers, a larger calling took hold of him.

He saw his role as helping to lift African Americans—and the rest of his countrymen—from another sort of darkness: that of racial bigotry.

He became a restless, outspoken advocate for integration, a co-founder of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, and a leader of the Civil Rights movement.

His death Wednesday in Birmingham left a sense of national loss, strongly felt in Cincinnati, where he spent most of his adulthood and served as pastor of two churches.

We feel that sense of loss, recognize the depth of his accomplishment and give thanks for the example he set.

In Birmingham and Cincinnati, the eloquent Rev. Shuttleworth appealed to moral conscience and championed everyday causes. He sat at lunch counters with young protesters in Birmingham, held "wade-ins" at segregated beaches in St. Augustine, Fla., and later in life established the Shuttleworth Housing Foundation to help low-income Cincinnatians afford a home.

He was focused, undeterrable, bold. He challenged Birmingham's white power structure at every turn. He refused to flinch at bombings of his church and home. He urged civil rights leaders to be more assertive, labeling the 1963 campaign to desegregate Birmingham "Project C"—for confrontational.

He once told the Tampa Tribune it helped to have "a little divine insanity—that's when you're willing to suffer and die for something."

But instead of becoming a martyr, the Rev. Shuttleworth lived to become one of the movement's elder statesmen.

The sound of his name alone revived memories of Freedom Riders and police fire hoses, of the relentless drive of young civil rights leaders and the stubborn resistance of the Old South. Perhaps nowhere is his ultimate triumph more evident than in the renaming of the Birmingham airport to the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport—a public tribute in a city where once a Ku Klux Klan member who was also a police officer warned him to get out of town as fast as he could.

He replied that he didn't run. And, in Birmingham and Cincinnati, he never did. And he never stopped.

As the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. once wrote to him, "May God strengthen your spirit and uplift your heart that even your accusers will be forced to admit that truly you are a man of courage, conviction and integrity."

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. The fight for women's rights and fair pay and protections for the disabled, none of those fights were easy, yet in the last few years, we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the 19th amendment, the 75th anniversary of Social Security, the 45th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

What have we done here this year? How will we show the march toward justice is the mark of our Nation's progress? We do so by marching with his spirit rather than standing in his shadow.

Dr. King said of Reverend Shuttleworth, he "proved to his people that he would not ask anyone to go where he was not willing to lead." That is a testament to his courage.

Four years ago, then a candidate for President, Senator Obama escorted a wheelchair-bound Reverend Shuttleworth across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. It was symbolic. It showed yet again Reverend Shuttleworth leading us across another bridge.

On behalf of a grateful State, Ohio, and in partnership with Senator PORTMAN from Ohio, Senator SHELBY

from Alabama, and Senator SESSIONS from Alabama, I offer my deepest condolences to the Shuttleworth family and to all of his friends and to all of his loved ones.

Mr. President, I will offer this resolution, and I think we will be looking at it later today, offered by Senators PORTMAN, SESSIONS, SHELBY, and myself. I will ask for passage later.

TRIBUTE TO GARY BERMEOSOLO

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today I rise to congratulate Gary Bermeosolo who is retiring from his position as Administrator at the Nevada State Veterans Home in Boulder City. Gary dedicated more than 40 years of his life to serving our Nation's veterans and he touched many lives in the process. Nevada has been very fortunate to have a man like Gary working for our veterans, and I am privileged to recognize his accomplishments today.

After returning from service in the U.S. Navy, Gary began his career in Idaho. For more than 20 years, Gary worked as the director of Veterans Services in that State. The Idaho Statesman awarded Gary with the Distinguished Citizen's award. He was also invited as the Honor Marshall for the Fourth of July Parade in Boise.

Before my friend Chuck Fulkerson decided to retire from the Nevada Office of Veterans Services, he recruited Gary to come to Nevada. Gary took a position as the administrator of the Nevada State Veterans Home. This wasn't an easy task, and the new facility was facing many significant challenges. Gary worked diligently to address the concerns of the Veterans Affairs Administration and ensure that Nevada's facility complied with Federal regulations. Since Gary's arrival, the Nevada Veterans Home has provided first-class healthcare to Nevada's veterans and their family members. After a troubled start, the Nevada State Veterans home was recognized as one of the top 100 nursing homes in the Nation. That accomplishment would never have occurred without Gary's leadership and his dedicated staff.

Gary's commitment to service is evident in nearly all of Gary's pursuits. Not only did Nevada's veterans benefit from Gary's creative problem solving, but he also spearheaded improvements in Veteran care through his work with the National Association of State Veterans Homes. As a legislative officer, a regional director, and as the president of the organization, Gary used the lessons he learned in Nevada to help veterans throughout the Nation. Just last year, Gary testified before a House of Representatives Subcommittee in support of increased flexibility in Federal payments for State veterans homes. The lives of many veterans have been directly impacted by Gary's tireless legislative advocacy for improved care.

The mission of the Nevada State Veterans Home is Caring for America's Heroes. No one has embodied that spirit