

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. KISSELL. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, I missed two rollcall votes as I was attending a White House briefing on the Energy bill. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall number 428, and "no" on rollcall number 429.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, due to a meeting at the White House, a Financial Services Committee Hearing and other commitments, I was unavoidably absent for certain votes this week. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 453, 454, 457, 458 and 460 and voted "nay" on rollcall votes 427, 455, 456, and 459.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DON GILKEY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of an agricultural icon in California, Mr. Don Gilkey of Corcoran, California. Don passed away on May 24, 2009 at the age of 74. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Moonyeen Gilkey, three children and several grandchildren.

Don Gilkey was born on February 3, 1935 in Corcoran, California to Margaret and Ralph Gilkey. Don graduated in 1952 from Corcoran High School. In 1953 he left for the University of California, Berkeley, where he played football and rugby all four years of college. Don was a lineman and punter for the Cal Berkeley Bears and in 1956 was voted the team captain. He was named First Team All Pacific Coast and Second Team A.P. All-American. In August 1956, during his senior year, Don married the love-of-his life, Moonyeen Apperson, and they spent their first year of marriage in Berkeley while Don finished college. After graduating from Cal, Don spent a short period of time as an officer with the U.S. Army. Upon returning, Don declined several offers to become a professional football player, deciding instead to return home to Corcoran where he would become an integral part of the family farming business.

In 1958, Don became a partner with his brother Charles and brothers-in-law Don Riddle and Ken DeVaney in the family farming operation. Soon thereafter, the family partnership grew to include another brother-in-law, Bill Bondurant. During his farming career, Don farmed cotton, grain, alfalfa and raised turkeys. In 1962, the family farming operation

was such a success they decided to build their own cotton gin and the company went on to successfully bale 30,000 to 60,000 bales per year at their peak.

In 1966, one of Don's many community efforts became a reality when a new football stadium was built. In appreciation of Don's efforts, the following year the community of Corcoran overwhelmingly named Don Gilkey as their "Citizen of the Year". His community involvement was boundless. For many years, Mr. Gilkey served on the board of directors for Lakeland Dusters Aviation and Commercial Tire. He was a three-term board member and president of the Corcoran Unified School District board of trustees, president of the Corcoran Chamber of Commerce, member of the Corcoran Hospital Foundation, a lifelong member and trustee of the Corcoran First United Methodist Church, a long time member of Corcoran's Rotary Club, board member of the California Wheat Commission and the California Wheat Growers Association, past delegate to the National Cotton Council, member of Class V of the California Agricultural Leadership Program and for several years Don served as a board member of the California Ammonia Company. Don was honored as a member of the "65 Club", a select group of farmers chosen for their achievement in agriculture production, farm and community leadership. This special honor was given to him in 1982 in Washington, D.O by then U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John R. Black during the National Agriculture Day ceremonies.

It goes without saying that Mr. Don "Donnie" Gilkey's dedication to his family, the family farm and his community have earned him a legacy of respect and enormous appreciation from Central Valley farmers, the Corcoran community and the agriculture industry. He will forever be remembered as "Don Gilkey, The Big Man with the Big Heart". I am honored and humbled to celebrate the life of this amazing man and agricultural icon.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2647) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise today as a cosponsor of this important amendment and urge of all of my colleagues to support it. I thank the Gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for his tireless advocacy on addressing human rights issues, and I would like to recognize Cindy Buhl on his staff and Jamila Thompson in my office for their hard work on this issue.

The McGovern-Sestak-Bishop-Lewis amendment would allow public access to the names of graduates and instructors at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation formerly known as the School of the

Americas. This military institution, based at Ft. Benning in Georgia, is known throughout the region for its questionable teachings and record of its graduates.

This amendment is simply about transparency. By revealing the names of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation attendees, we can shine the light of accountability and truth on an institution that is unnecessarily shrouded in secrecy. We can show our regional neighbors that we seek to be their partners in peace, and not co-conspirators of aggression.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the McGovern-Sestak-Bishop-Lewis amendment. Mr. Chair, with this amendment we can show that the intentions of the United States reflect a more cooperative foreign policy and a renewed commitment to international human rights standards.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend to a vote on May 20, 2009. Had I been present, my vote would have been "yea" on H.R. 2352, Job Creation Through Entrepreneurship Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA FESTIVAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of La Sagrada Familia Festival being held this June 26 through 28, 2009 and in remembrance of Reverend David F. Fallon, founding pastor of La Sagrada Familia Parish. This year's celebration is the twenty-fifth annual Latin American Festival and is being held at the Sagrada Familia Parish in Cleveland, Ohio.

The members of the La Sagrada Familia Parish in Cleveland have a long history of dedication to our community and to empowering Cleveland's diverse Latin American community. This year's celebration will feature live music, cultural dances, children's activities and a talent show that highlight the rich culture of the Latin American community. This year's honoree, Reverend David Fallon, became the founding pastor of Sagrada Familia on April 11, 1998 and continued in that role until his death on May 1, 2009. Under his direction, La Sagrada Familia became a source of strength and support for people of all ethnic and religious backgrounds. Father Fallon initiated numerous programs and organized church volunteers to serve the community through social service, employment and education initiatives.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the La Sagrada Familia Festival as they honor the memory of Reverend David F. Fallon at the 25th annual Latin American Festival. I offer my best wishes for a joyous celebration of culture and community.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. MIKE HEADRICK

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, the Volunteer State has done it again! Today, I rise to honor Sgt. Mike Headrick, a Tennessee National Guard soldier from Dunlap, Tennessee, who will be among seven National Guardsmen from across the entire United States competing for the prestigious title of Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year.

Sgt. Headrick has successfully competed against other highly talented National Guardsmen from our region for the opportunity to contend in the national finals. Competition begins in the hometown unit and becomes more difficult as the participant advances. In Sgt. Headrick's case, each unit in his Armored Cavalry Regiment squadron selected an NCO to compete at the Squadron level. Testing includes marksmanship, first aid, and warrior task training, along with proficiency on Army regulations and history. Squadron winners move up to regimental competition and face more difficult challenges including a physical fitness test, more warrior tasks, weapons qualification and a 10-mile road march. At the statewide competition, obstacles become even tougher with the addition of a land navigation course, another long road march and a mandatory appearance before a panel of Sergeant Majors.

The national competition begins at Fort Benning, Georgia, on July 30, and is packed with a grueling physical fitness test, five-mile run, day and night land navigation course, 12-mile road march with a 30 lb. rucksack, water survival, day and night weapons marksmanship, obstacle course, and hand-to-hand combat with little or no sleep. The competition concludes here in Washington, DC., one week later.

Sgt. Headrick is a member of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment's Det. 1, Headquarters Troop, 2nd Squadron, in Gallatin, Tennessee, and has proudly served in our National Guard for six years. He volunteered for military service at the age 33, just before the age-limit cutoff, because he wanted future generations to have the ability to live in freedom without the fear of terrorists attacks.

In civilian life, Sgt. Headrick is a Certified Master Auto Technician at Bavarian Auto in my hometown of Chattanooga. He has been married to his wife, Audrey, for 20 years and they have one son, Alex.

Tennessee is very proud of the accomplishments and service of Sgt. Mike Headrick, and I am honored to recognize him today in the U.S. House of Representatives. This friendly competition sharpens the skills of our service men and women and better prepares them for the intensities of combat. We wish all seven soldiers the very best as they prepare to win the coveted title of Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year, but it's no secret that I hope Sgt. Headrick brings it home to the great State of Tennessee!

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on congressional-directed funding, I am submitting the following information regarding funding included in H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: Department of the Interior—National Park Service—Land Acquisition

Legal Name of Recipient: Cumberland Gap National Historic Park

Address of Recipient: US 25E S, P.O. Box 1848, Middlesboro, KY 40965

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$500,000 for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. P.L. 108-07 gave the National Park Service authority to acquire the historic and pristine Fern Lake and surrounding 4500 acre watershed incorporating this area into Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Fern Lake will eventually serve as a clean and reliable water source for the city of Middlesboro, Kentucky as well as enhance recreational opportunities at Cumberland Gap. In May 2009, using previously secured federal funds, over 2000 acres of this property were conveyed to Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. To date, 4021 acres of the watershed have been added to the park, and the ultimate goal is to acquire 4500 acres within the sightline of the park's popular Pinnacle Overlook.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: Environmental Protection Agency—Science & Technology

Legal Name of Recipient: Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research

Address of Recipient: 100 Sylvan Drive, Suite 210, St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$1,000,000 for the Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research, a non-profit organization whose membership includes 43 leading U.S. research universities and 39 agribusiness companies and trade associations. 92.6% of funding is utilized for researching plant biotechnologies that will improve the competitiveness of U.S. agriculture by developing technologies to lessen the country's dependence on foreign energy supplies. Federal funds are matched 130% on average. The University of Kentucky is a CPBR member.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: Environmental Protection Agency—Environmental Programs and Management—National Programs

Legal Name of Recipient: Rural Communities Assistance Partnership

Address of Recipient: 1522 K Street, NW., Suite 400, Washington DC 20005

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$2,500,000 for the Rural Communities Assistance Partnership with the EPA. RCAP service providers work with federal and

state agencies to help small communities address their drinking water and wastewater treatment concerns. While small, rural communities are home to less than 25% of the nation's population, they account for over 85% of the nation's community water systems. Problems with EPA clean water compliance may arise when small communities lack the oversight capacity and technical expertise to deal with the complexities of maintaining a safe and clean supply of water, and communities with fewer than 10,000 residents are more than twice as likely to violate drinking water standards as are larger systems. Each year, the RCAP network delivers services to more than 2,000 rural communities, 90% of which have populations of 2,500 or fewer, while leveraging an average of \$25 in additional funding for every \$1 in federal investment. FY10 funding will be equally divided between technical assistance activities related to drinking water and clean water compliance.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: Environmental Protection Agency—STAG Water & Wastewater Infrastructure
Legal Name of Recipient: Perry County Sanitation District

Address of Recipient: P.O. Box 1615, Hazard, KY 41702

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$500,000 to support the Perry County Sanitation District's ongoing efforts to provide sanitary wastewater treatment services for residents in the Chavies area. Funds will support the Sanitation District in developing a 150,000 gallon per day wastewater treatment plant and an enhanced collection system, which will ultimately serve 502 households. The project will initially construct approximately 24,900 feet of gravity sewer, 3,500 feet of force main and two pump stations to serve 109 new customers. The wastewater treatment plant will be constructed to accommodate future expansions as collection lines are extended to serve additional customers. The Perry County Sanitation District received a grant from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the design of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System, which covered the cost of a regional facilities plan, environmental assessment and design. An additional \$1.154 million in Environmental Protection Agency funds have also been secured to begin construction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, I could not be present for votes due to a family funeral back in Michigan. I rise today to enter into the RECORD how I would have voted had I been able to vote.

House rollcall vote No. 424. I would have voted no.

House rollcall vote No. 425. I would have voted no.

House rollcall vote No. 426. I would have voted no.

House rollcall vote No. 427. I would have voted no.