

29TH ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this year, the nation observes for the 29th time the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Each year this day is set aside for Americans to celebrate the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America.

The Martin Luther King Holiday reminds us that nothing is impossible when we are guided by the better angels of our nature.

Dr. King's inspiring words filled a great void in our nation, and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles.

Yet, Dr. King knew that it was not enough just to talk the talk; he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible.

And so we commemorate on this holiday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day.

We honor the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings.

We commemorate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness."

"Life's most persistent and nagging question," he said, is "what are you doing for others?"

And when Dr. King talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life:

I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others, he said. I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life . . . to love and serve humanity.

We should also remember that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was, above all, a person who was always willing to speak truth to power. There is perhaps no better example of Dr. King's moral integrity and consistency than his criticism of the Vietnam War being waged by the Johnson Administration, an administration that was otherwise a friend and champion of civil and human rights.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929.

Martin's youth was spent in our country's Deep South, then run by Jim Crow and the Klu Klux Klan.

For young African-Americans, it was an environment even more dangerous than the one they face today.

A young Martin managed to find a dream, one that he pieced together from his readings—in the Bible, and literature, and just about any other book he could get his hands on.

And not only did those books help him educate himself, but they also allowed him to work through the destructive and traumatic ex-

periences of blatant discrimination, and the discriminatory abuse inflicted on himself, his family, and his people.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that we celebrate today could have turned out to be just another African-American who would have had to learn to be happy with what he had, and what he was allowed.

But he learned to use his imagination and his dreams to see right through those "White Only" signs—to see the reality that all men, and women, regardless of their place of origin, their gender, or their creed, are created equal.

Through his studies, Dr. King learned that training his mind and broadening his intellect effectively shielded him from the demoralizing effects of segregation and discrimination.

Dr. King was a dreamer. His dreams were a tool through which he was able to lift his mind beyond the reality of his segregated society, and into a realm where it was possible that white and black, red and brown, and all others live and work alongside each other and prosper.

But the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was not an idle daydreamer. He shared his visions through speeches that motivated others to join the nonviolent effort to lift themselves from poverty and isolation and create a new America where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

In the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are Created Equal."

At that time and for centuries to come, African-Americans were historically, culturally, and legally excluded from inclusion in that declaration.

Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" Speech, delivered 51 years ago, on August 28, 1963, was a clarion call to each citizen of this great nation that we still hear today.

His request was simply and eloquently conveyed—he asked America to allow of its citizens to live out the words written in its Declaration of Independence and to have a place in this nation's Bill of Rights.

The 1960s were a time of great crisis and conflict. The dreams of the people of this country were filled with troubling images that arose like lava from the nightmares of violence and the crises they had to face, both domestically and internationally.

It was the decade of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Malcolm X, Presidential Candidate Robert Kennedy, and the man we honor here today.

Dr. Martin Luther King's dream helped us turn the corner on civil rights.

It started with a peaceful march for suffrage that started in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965—a march that ended with violence at the hands of law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

But the dream did not die there.

Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, begun with Rosa Parks, that lasted for 381 days, and ended when the United States Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional to discriminate on account of race in the field of interstate public transportation.

Dr. King used nonviolent tactics to protest against Jim Crow laws in the South and he organized and led demonstrations for desegregation, labor and voting rights.

When the life of Dr. Martin Luther King was stolen from us, he was still a very young man, only 39 years old.

People remember that Dr. King died in Memphis, but few remember why he was there.

On that fateful day in 1968 Dr. King came to Memphis to support a strike by the city's sanitation workers.

The sanitation workers there had recently formed a chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to demand better wages and working conditions.

But the city refused to recognize their union, and when the 1,300 employees walked off their jobs the police broke up the rally with mace and police batons.

It was then that union leaders invited Dr. King to Memphis.

Despite the danger he might face entering such a volatile situation, it was an invitation he could not refuse.

Not because he longed for danger, but because the labor movement was intertwined with the civil rights movement for which he had given up so many years of his life.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will never overshadow his life.

That is his legacy as a dreamer and a man of action.

It is a legacy of hope, tempered with peace. It is a legacy not quite yet fulfilled.

I hope that Dr. King's vision of equality under the law is never lost to us, who in the present, toil in times of unevenness in our equality.

For without that vision—without that dream—we can never continue to improve on the human condition.

For those who have already forgotten, or whose vision is already clouded with the fog of complacency, I would like to recite the immortal words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former shareholders will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the State of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but for the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its Governor having his lips dripping with words of interposition and nullification—one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough place will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Dr. King's dream did not stop at racial equality; his ultimate dream was one of human equality and dignity.

Dr. King believed that freedom and justice was the birthright of every individual in America.

It is for us, the living, to continue that fight today and forever, following in the great spirit that inspired the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

HONORING KYLE EAN LONG

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kyle Ean Long, who was born in Sacramento on June 14, 1987, and died on January 10, 2015, at the very young age of 27. Kyle, the son of James and Tina Long, was born and raised in Sacramento, attended local public schools, and was a graduate of California State University, Sacramento.

I have known Kyle for three years, beginning when he came to work in my California Capitol office in January of 2012 as an intern. Kyle swiftly became known as “Sunshine” for his positive attitude and infectious happiness. Kyle then worked for Assemblymember Tony Mendoza. After his work in the Assembly, Kyle worked for me as a Legislative Aide for two years as an integral team member, a role that he thrived in.

Kyle was dependable and resourceful team member. As a college student, Kyle worked diligently towards a career in public policy. While attending college at Sacramento State University, Kyle honed his extraordinary people skills at Chicory Coffee in Sacramento, and became a familiar face to those working in the State Legislature. Kyle was a master of working with people of all backgrounds and of bringing people together.

Kyle’s passion for public policy and his enthusiasm for bringing people together made him a highly effective Legislative Aide. During his tenure in the State Legislature, Kyle successfully steered bills through the legislative process that helped to provide counseling services for rape victims, to keep pesticides out of California schools, to provide school supplies for homeless children, and to close loopholes to keep drunk drivers off of the roads.

In addition to being a valued colleague, Kyle was an important member of the State Senate family, a beloved friend, and an integral member of the community. Kyle made sure to have dinner with his grandmother every Tuesday, was always there to support his friends, and was looked up to by his two siblings and many cousins.

Kyle was a committed public servant who considered his public policy work a privilege and took on his responsibilities with a strong sense of duty. He was a dependable, resourceful team player who was a beloved colleague with a bright future ahead of him. Kyle’s tragic loss is inexplicable, and I send my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life of Kyle Long. The world is a brighter and better place because of him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on January 13, 2015. Had I

been present I would have voted “No” on Roll Call 20, “No” on Roll Call 21, and, “Yes” on Roll Call 22, “No” on Roll Call 23, “Yes” on Roll Call 24, “Yes” on Roll Call 25, “Yes” on Roll Call 26, “Yes” on Roll Call 27, and “No” on Roll Call 28.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent on January 6th, as I was attending the funeral of former New York Governor Mario Cuomo. Had I been present I would have voted in the following manner:

Roll Call #1 Present.

Roll Call #2 For Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI for Speaker.

Roll Call #3 No on Tabling the Motion to Refer.

Roll Call #4 No on Ordering the Previous Question.

Roll Call #5 Yes on the Motion to Commit with Instructions.

Roll Call #6 No on Adopting Rules for the 114th Congress.

Roll Call #7 Yes on H.R. 22, the Hire More Heroes Act of 2015.

DOLLY MAE NAVE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dolly Nave, who passed away on December 23, 2014, at her home in San Rafael, California. As a dedicated community organizer and leader, Ms. Nave helped to transform recreational facilities in the City of San Rafael for the benefit of countless Marin County residents.

In the 1980s, on behalf of Ms. Nave’s eight children and the children in the local community, Ms. Nave rallied the support of local contractors and volunteers to donate the equipment, labor, and funding necessary to breathe new life into public schools and city-owned recreation fields and facilities. Ms. Nave continued to improve recreational facilities throughout her life, and founded the Marin Bocce Federation in Albert Park, San Rafael.

Ms. Nave was a skillful community leader who processed the necessary organizational skills to always put the pieces in place and get the job done. She was the project manager for the construction of Marin Community Fields in Larkspur and was in the forefront of numerous projects at San Rafael High, initiating the successful “Save Night Football” campaign. A volunteer at Albert Park for 35 years, she became known as the “Angel of Albert Park” because she was one of its foremost advocates. In 1993, she was a founding board member and construction chair of the Marin Bocce Federation in Albert Park. The six bocce courts are now used by more than 1,000 players a week.

Ms. Nave’s work did not go unnoticed, and her longstanding commitment to the others

was recognized by numerous awards including San Rafael Citizen of the Year, the Marv Lechner Award from San Rafael High, and Woman of the Year for California’s Third Senate District in 1991. She was also one of the first women to be inducted into the Marin Athletic Foundation High School Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, Dolly Nave’s selfless efforts have benefited countless residents of San Rafael and Marin County. Her legacy will not soon be forgotten as her accomplishments can be seen all around the City of San Rafael. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and express our deepest condolences to her husband, Rich; three sons, Richard Jr., Paul and Tom; and three daughters, Sheri, Kathy and Patti; as well as her forty-two grandchildren and great grandchildren.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about the Keystone XL Pipeline Project and the legislation before us, H.R. 3.

Mr. Speaker, the Keystone XL project proposed by TransCanada, a Canadian company, would build new pipeline to transport Alberta oil sands crude and crude oil produced in North Dakota and Montana to a market hub in Nebraska, and from there to Gulf Coast refineries.

The proposed pipeline would deliver an estimated 830,000 barrels of oil per day. One of the most appealing aspects of the project is the positive economic impact it is expected to have on the economy.

Let me just take one state’s economy and realize what would happen with this particular effort. There would be a \$2.3 billion investment in the Texas economy, creating more than 50,000 jobs in the Houston area, providing \$48 million in state and local tax revenues, and increasing the gross domestic product of the state by \$1.9 billion.

I favor the job creation potential of the Keystone XL Pipeline project, and voted accordingly less than a month and a half ago, on November 14, which was H.R. 5682. Yet the legislation contains several provisions that are of great concern to me which I feel inclined to address.

First, because the pipeline would cross an international border, construction requires a presidential permit and would be subject to applicable state laws and permitting requirements.

To issue a presidential permit, the State Department, after consulting with other federal agencies and providing opportunities for public comment, must determine that the project would serve the national interest.

Because the Keystone XL project would constitute a major federal action with a potentially significant environmental impact, it is also subject to environmental impact statement requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The bill, however, declares that a presidential permit is not required for approval of the Keystone XL pipeline’s northern route from the Canadian border through Nebraska even