

Hoosiers and frequently worked pro bono legal cases for the less fortunate. I never met someone who had anything but positive comments about Mark. He was active in the Rotary Club of Lafayette Indiana and in the Tippecanoe Republican Party, where he served as Party Secretary. Just last summer Mark arranged for me to speak with the Rotary Club where he graciously introduced me before my remarks.

Mark leaves Mary Kay, his beloved wife, four daughters, and eight grandchildren to carry on his legacy of service to fellow Hoosiers. Anyone who knew—him well knows what a great loss his passing is for our community and the State of Indiana. May Mark rest in peace. He will not be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, due to a scheduling miscommunication, I missed Roll Call vote 136 in the House yesterday afternoon of Wednesday, March 8th. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on roll call No. 136, H.R. 1301, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for roll call votes 133 through 137 on the evening of March 8, 2017. I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 174 which would provide for consideration of H.R. 1310, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2017. I would have voted against roll call votes 134 and 135 to adjourn. I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1310. Lastly, I would have voted in favor of roll call vote 137 to adjourn.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 133, NAY on Roll Call No. 134, NAY on Roll Call No. 135, YEA on Roll Call No. 136, and YEA on Roll Call No. 137.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at an event off the Capitol Hill campus, I was unable to make Roll Call vote No. 135. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS CARLA HAYDEN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the historic appointment of Ms. Carla Hayden to the post of Librarian of Congress. This is so significant because although more than eighty percent of librarians nationwide are females, the position of Librarian of Congress has been held exclusively by men, until Carla Hayden was appointed by Barack Obama in 2016.

Carla Hayden was enamored by books and reading from an early age, and began her career as a librarian in Chicago at the Museum of Science and Industry and the Chicago Public Library. It was during her time in Chicago that she met Barack and Michelle Obama.

After her impressive time in Chicago, Ms. Hayden left the windy city to take the position of Director at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the public library system in Baltimore, Maryland. It was here that Ms. Hayden showed her true leadership as she improved and maintained an enormous public library operation. After the death of Freddie Gray, Ms. Hayden made the difficult decision to keep the Baltimore public libraries open in order to encourage people to use safe spaces and avoid violence. It is strong leadership like this that made her an excellent choice to become Librarian of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we celebrated International Women’s Day, and I cannot think of a better way to acknowledge this day than by recognizing Carla Hayden, a pioneering woman of color whose very job will allow stories like hers to be told forever.

IN MEMORIAM OF LAURA HOGAN

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a native Arizonan, a tireless community organizer and a valued member of the Southern Arizona political community. Laura Hogan passed away on February 24 in Tucson, Arizona. Laura was born in the small border town of Douglas, Arizona and she loved rural Arizona. She attended Michigan State University but returned to Arizona after graduation to work with former Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Warner on educational policy and consulting.

Laura’s passion was the working families of Arizona. She served as Field Director for the Pima Area Labor Federation, helping to organize and mobilize the labor community in Tucson to support candidates at the local, county, state and federal levels. She took that experience to Arizona List in 2007 where she served as the Political Director since. She simply loved to train and support women in their run for elected office. She has mentored countless young women and helped them plan and achieve their dreams of public service.

Laura was also active in the local Democratic Party, serving as the Chair of Legislative

District 30 and a Vice-Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party. She was inducted into the Arizona Democratic Party Hall of Fame in 2016.

I considered Laura a friend and a colleague in the Arizona political community. She was widely respected and admired for her hard work and dedication to her values. She will be greatly missed. I join the Arizona labor community, Democratic Party and Arizona List family in remembering Laura and working to ensure her legacy lives on through our work.

INTRODUCTION OF SEAT EGRESS IN AIR TRAVEL (SEAT) ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced, along with my colleague Rep. ADAM KINZINGER, the Seat Egress in Air Travel (SEAT) Act, which would direct the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish minimum seat size standards necessary to ensure the safety and health of airplane passengers. The bill would also require each airline to display the space available (size, width, and distance between rows) for each passenger on the airline website. The bill was introduced in the Senate today by Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, Minority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER and Senators ED MARKEY and BOB MENENDEZ.

Consumers are tired of being squeezed. The average seat distance between rows of seats has dropped from 35 inches before airline deregulation in the 1970s to about 31 inches today. The average width of an airline seat has also shrunk from 18 inches to about 16½.

This isn’t just a matter of comfort. It is about safety and health. The FAA requires that planes be capable of rapid evacuation in case of emergency. Furthermore, doctors warn of deep vein thrombosis which can afflict passengers who don’t move their legs enough on longer flights.

Moreover, average seat sizes have been shrinking while the average size of Americans has been growing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average man in 1960 weighed 166 pounds, and the average woman weighed 140 pounds. Now the average man is 196 pounds and the average woman is 166 pounds, and both are about an inch taller.

This just doesn’t make any sense.

I hope that Congress will quickly act on this bill to direct the FAA to establish minimum seat size standards to protect the safety and health of airline passengers.

INTRODUCTION OF NO TRUMP ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the presidency should not be a get-rich-quick scheme. No president or presidential family should be able to exploit the Oval Office to get rich or become even wealthier.

The emoluments clause of the Constitution expressly forbids the President from accepting payments from foreign governments which, in my opinion, happens whenever an agent of a foreign government stays in any president's hotel. While this constitutional protection may have been enough in the past, we are now in uncharted waters. Hardly a week goes by without reports of taxpayer-funded trips by the President or his family to one of his family-owned properties throughout the world. These excesses have surpassed anything that this nation has seen before, and this unprecedented abuse of taxpayer dollars demands an additional ethical check on the office of the presidency.

That's why I'm introducing the No TRUMP Act, the No Taxpayer Revenue Used to Monetize the Presidency Act. This legislation would prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to pay for food, lodging, or other expenses at hotels owned or operated by a president or his or her relatives, ensuring that there is no personal financial incentive for the current or any future president and family to stay or hold official meetings or events at certain properties across the United States or abroad. In the interest of safety, the bill would allow the Secret Service to continue guarding First Family residences—Trump Tower in New York and Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, FL.

With so many unresolved concerns about White House business conflicts, this is a responsible step to make sure that the public doesn't subsidize the President's private interests.

APPRECIATING PERRY KIMBALL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on March 1, 2017, Lexington County, South Carolina lost a favorite son with the death of Perry Kimball. He was one of the community's most dynamic civic leaders.

I was grateful to serve as a pallbearer at Pilgrim Lutheran Church on March 4th with Solicitor Donnie Myers, Paul Scott, H.D. Carter, Councilman Jerry Howard, Danny Kimball, Wayne Kimball, Jim Walsh, Walter Hudson, and Scott Adams. Honorary Pallbearers were John Bizard, William "Bill" Jordan, David Scott Kimball, Pete Oswald, James Shealy, Charles Sinclair, and Jerry Wilkie.

The Officials were Presiding Pastor Glenn Boland, Organist Sandra Lindler, and Lector Peter Reinhart.

The following thoughtful obituary was included in the service program.

James Perry Kimball, 78, of Lexington, entered the Church Triumphant on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Born in Norfolk, Virginia, on May 29, 1938, he was the son and only child of the late James Rackley Kimball and Dorothy Perry Kimball. Last year he celebrated his 50th Wedding Anniversary with the love of his life, Sheri Rene Snyder Kimball. A lifelong Gamecock fan, Perry was a Gamecock Club Lifetime Donor with a particular passion for USC football, baseball, and men's and women's basketball. Whether he was in the stands or in his lounge chair, he was a loyal Gamecock fan through and through from the 1950s to the present.

After a move to Lake Murray in the early 1970s, he embraced life as a Lexingtonian, dedicated to serving the community with his unmistakable charm and humor. Perry was a member of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, where he was an usher, taught Sunday School and Bible Study, and faithfully served on many committees. He is a Paul Harris Fellow with the Rotary Club of Lexington where he served as past president and had perfect attendance for over 40 consecutive years. Perry remained active in the community by serving on the boards of the Lexington Gamecock Club, the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, the Lexington County Republican Party, and the Country Club of Lexington. He shared his talents on the stage, as well as set design, with the Lexington County Arts Association.

Perry's fondest memories of his childhood were playing on Burney Drive in the Shandon area of Columbia. He was a graduate of Dreher High School, Class of 1956, where he played varsity basketball and was a member of the 1956 Dreher Championship Team. After high school, he attended the University of South Carolina and joined the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Following USC, he served his country in the Army and thereafter, as a first lieutenant in the South Carolina National Guard for ten years.

Mr. Kimball worked in his father's business at Home Heating and Air Conditioning in Columbia and then ventured out on his own to establish Kimball's Commercial Mechanical Contracting in Lexington. As a self-employed businessman he embodied an incredible work ethic which could be seen by many. He worked above and beyond what was expected of him as he served people in his chosen field.

He retired in 2002 intent on having endless tee times and spoiling their five grandchildren. He always had a friendly smile and happy lifestyle even though he had health challenges. The Kimball family is grateful for three physicians, Dr. Horace (Butch) Bledsoe, Dr. C.W. Hendricks, and Dr. Scott Petit, whose medical expertise granted him additional time to impart his faith and humor and to be a great example to others with physical challenges.

He is survived by his wife, Sheri Snyder Kimball, three daughters, Teri Lee Kimball Callen of Columbia, Heather Kimball Ramsey (Jason) of Davidson, NC, Lexanne Kimball Graves (Scott) of Blythewood, and five grandchildren, Jacob Kimball Ramsey, Ava Perry Callen, Jordan Kennedy Ramsey, Anna Leigh Graves, and Wesley Scott Graves, Jr.; and an aunt, uncle, and many cousins and nieces. He was predeceased by a grandchild, Doren Rackley Ramsey.

IN RECOGNITION OF REBEKAH FRIEND

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community leader, a fighter for working families, and a tireless advocate for women. Rebekah Friend served as the Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer of the Arizona AFL-CIO since 2002, representing 180,000 union members through over 200 local union affiliates in Arizona. She is retiring this year and I want to personally thank her for her work and dedication to Arizona's labor community.

She was the first woman to be elected president of the Arizona AFL-CIO in 2002 and

the state federation's first female Secretary/Treasurer in 2005.

I consider Rebekah a friend and a trusted advisor on any and all issues affecting Arizona workers. Since being elected to the State Legislature in 2004 I have counted on Rebekah to always tell me how policies will impact her members without pulling punches. Her integrity and honesty are just some of the reasons she has been a respected labor leader for so many years.

For over 37 years, Rebekah has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and a committed advocate for working families. Throughout her career, she has played an integral role in developing legislation to improve the lives of working people in Arizona. She served as the first President of the Coalition for Labor Union Women in Maricopa County, lobbying state legislators on pay equity bills affecting female workers. Rebekah successfully chaired the Minimum Wage Coalition, which brought Proposition 202 to the ballot in 2006 and raised the minimum wage along with a cost-of-living adjustment every year.

Rebekah has received numerous awards of distinction for her public service. In 2004, Rebekah was awarded the YWCA's Woman of the Year, their highest award for a civic leader. In 2016, Rebekah was awarded the Pima Area Labor Federation (PALE) Community Partnership Award. She has also received the Arizona Capitol Times Leader of the Year in Public Policy Award (2007). Recently Rebekah received the AFL-CIO 2017 MLK Unsung Hero Award for the work done on the BASTA Arpaio campaign.

Rebekah has also served on numerous boards and commissions, including the Governor's Council on Workforce Policy, the Arizona Skill Standards Commission and the Governor's Prisoner Re-Entry Task Force. Rebekah is also a co-founder and board member of Emerge Arizona, which helps to identify and train Democratic women to run for elected office. Rebekah has also volunteered her time to assist local food banks and has done extensive mentoring with young women.

I congratulate Rebekah on an incredible career in the service of working families and communities across Arizona. I wish her a well-deserved retirement filled with friends, family and relaxation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RAISE IT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, America is literally falling apart and falling behind. Every day, we see new stories of deficient bridges, ballooning maintenance backlogs for aging transit systems, urban areas choking on congestion, or rising roadway fatalities. Earlier today, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave America's infrastructure an overall grade of D+, unchanged from 2013. Roads received a D, while transit came in at a D-.

There is universal agreement that we must address these growing infrastructure challenges. The only question is how to pay for it. That's why I'm introducing the Raise And