

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H. CON. RES.
362

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 362.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESTAK). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on the passage of S. 2403, I was unavoidably detained. I would like the RECORD to reflect that had I been present I would have voted "yes."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1619

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to have my name removed from H.R. 1619 as a sponsor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES TO FILE
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON H.R.
3667, MISSISQUOI AND TROUT
RIVERS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER
STUDY ACT OF 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be authorized to file a supplemental report on H.R. 3667.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS
JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE STATE OF OHIO

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in order to consider the bereavement resolution in memory of our beloved colleague.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1415

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones, a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is with a profound sense of

sadness, as well as a deep sense of privilege that I rise this evening to commemorate and to celebrate the life of our friend, colleague, and sister, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES of Ohio's 11th District. This evening, we do this with the deepest gratitude for her life, and on behalf of our entire Ohio delegation, the people of our State, her home city of Cleveland, and citizens far and wide, who were blessed to know and walk, work, worship and smile along with STEPHANIE.

On the day of her funeral, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, or actually it was the day after, the Sunday Plain Dealer, had a very large photo of the memorial service held in Cleveland, Ohio. And the headline read, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, 1949 to 2008: Tears flow, laughter rolls during memorial service. And the paper goes on to recount so many beautiful, beautiful remarks and remembrances that people across this country attributed to her life. We will be placing this in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as well as I would like to read from my home paper, the Toledo Blade, way on the other side of the State from where STEPHANIE represented. It stated, a leader passes, the loss of her fighting spirit will be keenly felt, deeply mourned and difficult to replace.

I think particularly this evening of her son, Mervyn. We wish him comfort, and we wish him her strength as he mourns her passing.

We all know that when one met STEPHANIE, you knew you had met strength. You knew you had met someone who endured struggle. She had a keen intelligence, a high-minded idealism, and wow, her charisma just overflowed.

The other day I was in my district and I met a man from Cleveland who had gone to school with STEPHANIE. And I said, tell me, was STEPHANIE always that enthusiastic? He said, "Marcy, I went to law school with her. She never changed."

And from the time she was in her late teens and early 20s to her service here, she had the same boundless energy, drive and positive spirit.

She was a devoted wife, a beloved mother, a sister to us all, and an elected leader, in that order. And she relished all of her life's roles. Her drive and energy were genuine, and they were infectious. And she carved a nobler path for America with her election as the first African American woman from Ohio to serve in the U.S. Congress. We Ohioans were very proud of her.

I know that I, like my colleagues, have so many vivid lasting memories of STEPHANIE. Upon her first swearing in, I still recall a little table in a reception hall here where I was able to present her with a single red rose as she was sitting next to her predecessor, Congressman Louis Stokes, and how she poignantly responded. She knew the steepness of the climb.

I recall my efforts to comfort her on the loss of her husband, and she imme-

diately reciprocated as she shared with me, over my Blackberry, a favorite poem from which she drew succor.

Imagine how many memories each of us has, how many thousands of lives she touched, representing a district and State that tested her talents, her spirit, and her conscience daily. She served people well beyond her district, logging thousands of miles in freedom's cause.

I don't think I saw STEPHANIE too many times without that little valise in the back room here. She was always going somewhere. She held a hard job, and she put her entire being into it. She literally gave herself to us. And in her memory, we should dedicate ourselves to her unfinished work.

One can imagine how few women have ever served in the Congress from our State. To those afforded the privilege, there is a priceless bond that links our spirits and provides support.

STEPHANIE was such a valued sister. Though her years with us were far too short, her impact endures well beyond the years. She made history. She spoke her conscience, and she reveled in every step of the journey.

Thanks be to God, she did not suffer in the end. The Lord spared her that, perhaps as, through her life, she had endured too much personal sadness and loss that would have broken lesser spirits.

In loss, STEPHANIE's strength strengthens us. Her enduring personal legacy of character and endurance, beyond her milestone achievements, remain the portrait of her life. Our delegation is especially honored to fittingly commemorate her life and achievements here this evening.

[From the Sunday Plain Dealer, Aug. 31, 2008]

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, 1949-2008: TEARS FLOW, LAUGHTER ROLLS DURING MEMORIAL SERVICE

(By Tony Brown)

It was a moment that surely would have earned one of the wide, knowing smiles remembered so well by all the friends of Stephanie Tubbs Jones.

Rep. Tim Ryan of Niles, the man Tubbs Jones used to call her "white son," and fellow Congressman Kendrick Meek of Florida, whom she nicknamed her "black son," had just finished moving tributes to their congressional "mom."

That's when Mervyn Jones II, her real son, slipped out of his front-row seat to join his "brothers" in an intimate, tearful embrace in front of thousands gathered to bid farewell to the first black woman elected to Congress from Ohio.

The three remained locked in each other's arms well into remarks made by former Rep. Louis Stokes, the man whose seat Tubbs Jones inherited in 1989.

After the men returned to their places, Sen. Barack Obama—the son of a black father and a white mother who grew up to become the first black presidential nominee of a major U.S. political party—turned in his chair to console a still-sobbing Meek.

In that moment, amid the grieving and the laughter and the consolation and the stories and the campaign rhetoric of the celebration of a life well-lived, everyone under the vaulted ceiling of Public Hall—all friends of Tubbs Jones—shared in that group hug.