

enabling the public to assess the job impacts of the various programs funded. Overall, the data demonstrate that the Recovery Act has delivered as promised by creating and saving millions of jobs across the country, and has been an essential factor in rescuing the American economy.

Well, I know the nominee is a friend and ally of the President, and I am willing to give her a vote, and I suppose she will be confirmed. But I just want to say that I think that is a bit of a Pollyannaish description of the success of the stimulus bill. It just did not meet those standards, and I do feel as though she has been less than rigorous in her understanding of these difficult financial issues that our Nation faces. So I encourage my colleagues to join me in opposing the nomination.

I yield the floor and 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to a series of votes in relation to the following amendments: Vitter No. 769, as modified; Webb No. 750; Merkley No. 879, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; Brown of Ohio No. 874, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; Moran No. 815; and Grassley No. 860; that there be no amendments or points of order against any of the amendments prior to the votes other than budget points of order; that there be 2 minutes equally divided in the usual form prior to each vote; that the Vitter, Webb, Merkley, Brown, and Grassley amendments be subject to a 60 affirmative vote threshold; and that all after the first vote be 10 minutes; further, that the following amendments be considered agreed to this evening: Sanders No. 816, Coburn No. 793, and Coburn No. 798, as modified with the changes that are at the desk; finally, that the following first-degree amendments filed by Senator COBURN be in order to be called up and made pending during tomorrow's session: Nos. 794 through 797; 799 through 801; and 833.

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

The amendment (No. 816) was agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 793 and 798), as modified, were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 793

(Purpose: To ensure transparency in federally attended and funded conferences, including the cost to taxpayers for food, drinks, and hotel stays associated with federally funded conferences of more than \$20,000)

On page 209, after line 2 insert the following:

SEC. _____. The provisions of sections 517(c), 531, and 538 shall apply to all agencies and departments funded by divisions A, B, and C.

AMENDMENT NO. 798, AS MODIFIED

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Notwithstanding section 701, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to purchase new passenger motor vehicles, except for national security, law enforcement needs, public transit, safety, and research: Provided further, all agencies and departments funded by divisions A, B, and C of this Act shall send to Congress at the end of the fiscal year a report containing a complete inventory of the total number of vehicles owned, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2012 as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on amendment No. 738 to H.R. 2112, an Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Herb Kohl, Daniel Inouye, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Barbara Mikulski, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Durbin, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Bernard Sanders, Robert Casey, Jr., Jeff Merkley, Patrick Leahy, Tom Harkin.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have another cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close the debate on H.R. 2112, an Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Herb Kohl, Daniel Inouye, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Jeff Bingaman, Barbara Mikulski, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Durbin, Sherrod Brown, Richard Blumenthal, Bernard Sanders, Robert Casey, Jr., Jeff Merkley, Patrick Leahy, Tom Harkin.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived with regard to both cloture motions.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

TRIBUTE TO CARL H. LINDNER JR.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to mourn the passing of a great American and a man who did much to benefit the people of Kentucky as well as his native Ohioans, Mr. Carl Henry Lindner Jr. Carl Lindner was greater Cincinnati's most successful entrepreneur and a self-made billionaire. He passed away this October 17. He was 92 years old.

Carl Lindner was born in Dayton, OH, in 1919, the son of a dairyman. He quit high school to help out in his father's dairy store. That store grew into United Dairy Farmers, a chain of dairy and convenience stores that many northern Kentuckians frequent to this day to buy their famous ice cream.

Mr. Lindner made much of his fortune in the banking and insurance business. His name became famous across northern Kentucky and Ohio and nationwide as the owner of the Cincinnati Reds from 1999 to 2005, when he also served as that organization's CEO. Carl Lindner also in the past bought and sold Kings Island amusement park, Provident Bank, and the Cincinnati Enquirer newspaper.

Always the optimist, Carl was famous for carrying with him cards that he would hand out to anyone he met, with motivational sayings printed on them. One frequent version of this card would read, "Only in America! Gee, am I lucky!"

Carl put his great wealth to use benefiting his community, bringing thousands of high-paying jobs to Cincinnati and northern Kentucky. He has been called a "one-man chamber of commerce."

He also generously gave millions of dollars a year to various charitable causes, including, but certainly not limited to, the Lindner Center of HOPE behavioral health center, the University of Cincinnati College of Law, the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Reds, the Western & Southern Open, Fort Washington Way, the Bond Hill/Roselawn library, the West End YMCA, and the necklace lights on the cables of the Roebling Suspension Bridge.

I had the benefit of knowing Carl quite well. He was an amazing man, and his loss will be deeply felt by many. Elaine and I send our condolences to his wife Edyth, his sons Carl III, Craig, and Keith, his 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, and many other beloved family members and friends.

The passing of Mr. Carl Henry Lindner Jr. is a true loss for the people of northern Kentucky, Ohio, and the Nation. I know my Senate colleagues join me in remembering and honoring Carl for his very American success story, his service to his community, and the example he leaves behind for others of a full life well lived.

Mr. President, the Cincinnati Enquirer published recently an obituary for Mr. Carl Lindner. I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Cincinnati Enquirer, Oct. 18, 2011]

CARL HENRY LINDNER: 1919–2011

BILLIONAIRE INVESTOR, DEAD AT 92, WAS CINCINNATI'S BIGGEST BENEFACTOR

(By Cliff Peale)

From humble beginnings running his father's dairy store in Norwood, Carl Henry Lindner Jr. grew into a billionaire, a friend of U.S. presidents and Greater Cincinnati's most successful entrepreneur.

For nearly a century until he died late Monday at age 92, the former Reds owner never shed the fierce competitiveness and loyalty that made him a hometown icon.

His influence ran to every corner of Greater Cincinnati. The high-school dropout bought and sold Kings Island, the Reds, Provident Bank and the Enquirer. His name is on buildings from the University of Cincinnati's business school to the tennis center at Lunken Playfield.

But it was the banking and insurance business that made him a billionaire. At his death, his American Financial Group Inc. controlled assets of nearly \$32 billion and he was routinely listed as one of the richest men in America.

Ever the optimist, Lindner often carried an inch-thick stack of cards with motivational sayings—one was "Only in America! Gee, am I lucky!"—that he handed out to anyone he would meet.

He was a teetotaler, physically unimposing yet with a prominent shock of white hair and a penchant for wearing flashy neckties.

Even to his closest friends and colleagues, he was soft-spoken and rarely confrontational. Yet some business partners complained about unfair treatment and he flashed a harsh temper when confronting reporters who wrote what he perceived as unfriendly stories or criticism of his business dealings.

A devout Baptist and a longtime member of Kenwood Baptist Church, Lindner used his wealth and influence behind the scenes to become Greater Cincinnati's largest benefactor and economic development force. At the height of his personal giving he contributed millions of dollars a year to charitable causes, and brought thousands of high-paying jobs to downtown Cincinnati.

His companies brought thousands of employees to the region, and the annual Christmas party that he threw at Music Hall attracted some of the nation's biggest acts, including Bill Cosby and Frank Sinatra.

CONSIDERED HIMSELF OUTSIDER

At the same time, Lindner thought of himself as an outsider, building his business career outside of Cincinnati's old-money elite. He was never a member of many of the most exclusive business and country clubs and his bar-the-doors business style, starting with a hostile takeover of Provident Bank in the mid-1960s, was out of place in always polite Cincinnati.

Perhaps the most public role of his career was his ownership of the Cincinnati Reds from 1999 to 2005. Lindner owned a minority stake both before and after that period but was the Reds' CEO for six seasons, and each of those years the team lost more games than it won.

He approved the trade for Ken Griffey Jr. in 2000, even sending his private jet to bring Griffey to Cincinnati and then personally

driving the hometown star back to Cinergy Field from Lunken Airport in his Rolls-Royce.

But as the Reds' losses mounted, Lindner never spoke publicly to fans and privately bristled at talk-radio criticism.

That period ended in late 2005 when Lindner sold a controlling stake in the Reds to a group headed by Bob Castellini.

Shy and scornful of reporters, Lindner nevertheless became a focus of media attention because of his substantial wealth and his far-flung business dealings.

The controversies included millions of dollars in political contributions as his Chiquita Brands International Inc. was waging a trade war with European countries, a bevy of lawsuits and federal charges over business deals that benefited Lindner and his company more than other shareholders, and a high-profile battle with the Enquirer in 1998 over a series of critical stories on Chiquita.

Lindner built a national reputation in the 1980s as a high-risk trader, becoming a business partner of symbols of the decade's excess such as junk-bond king Michael Milken and Cincinnati's own Charles Keating.

He was the classic "value investor," buying properties few other investors wanted and waiting years, or even decades, to reap the benefits.

That gave him a portfolio including the old Penn Central railroad, Circle K convenience stores and New York City landmark Grand Central Station.

But Lindner spent the two decades before his death shedding assets that didn't deal with insurance and transferring others to his three sons. That left American Financial as mostly an insurance and financial services company.

He lost his stake in Chiquita in 2002 when that company emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy. In 2004, Lindner, his family and American Financial reaped nearly \$1 billion in stock when they sold Cincinnati's Provident Financial Group Inc. to Cleveland-based National City Corp.

The moves consolidated the business around safer insurance businesses. Lindner also transferred tens of millions of dollars to his three sons and their families, solidifying for generations a wealth that he never enjoyed growing up.

STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Born April 22, 1919, in Dayton, Ohio, Carl Henry Lindner Jr. was the firstborn of a modest dairyman and his wife, Clara.

Lindner quit high school to help in his father's Norwood dairy store. Along with his father, he and his brothers Robert and Richard, and sister Dorothy, built it into United Dairy Farmers, a chain of dairy and convenience stores.

When the family founded what now is UDF on Montgomery Road in Norwood in 1940, the first day's sales amounted to \$8.28.

Lindner often talked about the modest surroundings of his childhood, noting more than once that he picked up dates in an ice-cream truck.

Robert Lindner's family eventually took control of UDF, and Richard Lindner became sole owner of the Thriftway supermarket chain before selling it to Winn-Dixie Stores.

Lindner married the former Ruth Wiggeringloh of Norwood in 1942. They divorced seven years later with no children. He then married the former Edyth Bailey in 1951, and they have three sons who all went into the family business: Carl III, Craig and Keith.

Lindner cautiously entered the savings-and-loan and insurance business, founding his flagship company American Financial Corp. in 1959. In the early 1970s the company gained control of Great American Insurance,

which would become its chief operating business.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s the company bought and sold companies in a variety of industries. Lindner took the company private in 1981 and released little financial information to the public, but in 1995 the company sold stock to public shareholders under the new umbrella of American Financial Group Inc.

In 2003, Keith Lindner left American Financial to concentrate on the family's charitable pursuits. In 2004 Carl and Craig Lindner were named co-CEOs of the company while Carl Lindner Jr. remained chairman.

Lindner was a conservative icon, lobbying against Robert Mapplethorpe's 1990 exhibit at the Contemporary Arts Center here and funding the Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy.

But he was pragmatic as well, contributing more than \$1 million to Democratic President Bill Clinton during Chiquita Brands' battle over European banana quotas. He was well known as one of the biggest givers in the country to both political parties.

THE GOOD LIFE

Lindner developed a taste for the good life, including a sprawling home in Indian Hill and nearly a dozen Rolls-Royce automobiles—with the trademark "CHL" license plate—that he drove himself well into his 80s.

He also owned a home in the exclusive Ocean Reef community of North Key Largo, Fla. There, he entertained lavishly, including hosting former President George Bush in the early 1990s.

Lindner traveled around the country in his own private jet. He dined often at exclusive restaurants like the Maisonette or the Waterfront—where he was an investor—and also became a regular at Trio in Kenwood.

Lindner received nearly every award Cincinnati has to offer, including induction into Junior Achievement's Greater Cincinnati Business Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Great Living Cincinnati award in 1994.

He was also on the board of directors of Citizens for Decency through Law, an anti-pornography group headed by American Financial co-founder and one-time Executive Vice President Charles Keating.

Among numerous awards and honors throughout his career, Lindner was named Man of the Year of the United Jewish Appeal in 1978 and received the Friars Club Centennial Award in 1985. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by UC in 1985 and by Xavier University in 1991.

SERVICES NOT SCHEDULED YET

Lindner's family has not yet scheduled memorial or funeral services.

American Financial Group, where Lindner was chairman, said Tuesday that the family had requested memorial gifts be made to Kenwood Baptist Church.

Lindner is survived by wife Edyth, sons Carl III, Craig and Keith, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JULIA LINK ROBERTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a fine Kentuckian and an outstanding educator, my friend Dr. Julia Link Roberts. Dr. Roberts is the Mahurin Professor of Gifted Studies at Western Kentucky University and the executive director of the Center for Gifted Studies, a leading Kentucky institution devoted to providing opportunities to gifted students for over 30 years.