

## **OPERA – fiche sociographique - défense**

### **Prénom, Nom:**

David S. Lyles

### **Contact :**

### **Catégorie : Législatif**

Démocrate affilié

### **Dates de naissance / décès :**

1951

### **Lieu de naissance :**

Spartanburg, S.C.

### **Genre :** Male

### **Lieu de résidence (si DC avant l'accession à un poste retenu, avec si possible l'année de l'emménagement à DC):**

### **Formation :**

<b>BA/BS</b>	BA, Oberlin College, Ohio
<b>MA/MS</b>	MA, History, Un. Of Wisconsin, Madison
<b>PhD</b>	
<b>Law degree (JD...)</b>	
<b>Autre</b>	

### **Profession initiale :**

### **Carrière :**

1997 – 81 : professional staff member, subcom. on defense, US Senate Appro Com

1981 – 91 : professional staff member, US Senate Armed Services Com

1991 – 94 : deputy staff director, US Senate Armed Services Com

1995 : Member of the defense base closure and realignment commission, Office of the Secretary of Defense and Budget Office, USAF

1996 : director, Congressional liaison and program development, ITT Defense and Electronics, McLean, VA

1997 – 2001 : minority staff director, US Senate Armed Services Committee

2001 – 2003 : staff director, US Senate Armed Services Com

2003 - : chief of staff to Senator Carl Levin, US Senate

## Sources biblio/bio, articles, divers.

**David** **S.** **Lyles**  
**Minority Staff Director**

A longtime Hill veteran who returned to the committee from the private sector to take this job, the scarily smart Lyles goes about his work with green eyeshades and a knife. "A very talented, savvy guy," said a former staffer, but "not necessarily a warm and fuzzy kind of guy." Lyles learned cost cutting in the four years he spent as a Defense Appropriations Subcommittee staffer (his first Hill job), after which he spent 13 years on Armed Services, rising to the position of deputy staff director. He left in 1994 to swing an ax full time as staff director for the [Base Closure and Realignment Commission](#), then went to work at ITT Defense & Electronics. In December 1996, ranking Democrat Carl Levin of Michigan got Lyles to bring his extensive experience back to the committee. Lyles, 48, grew up in Spartanburg, S.C., and holds degrees from Oberlin College and the University of Wisconsin. Lyles never served in uniform but has held civilian jobs in the Pentagon.

Source : <http://www.govexec.com/hillpeople/sassb.htm> checked 20 sept. 11

Washington Post : who runs gov ?

### **At a Glance**

Current Position: Chief of Staff, [Sen. Carl Levin \(D-Mich.\)](#)

Career History: Democratic Staff Director, [Senate Armed Services Committee](#), 1997-2003; Director of Congressional Liason and Program Development, ITT Defense and Information Solutions, 1996; Staff Director of Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, 1995; Deputy Staff Director to [Senate Armed Services Committee](#), 1991-1994; Professional Staff Member of [Senate Armed Services Committee](#), 1981-1991; Employee in the Office of the [Secretary of Defense](#), 1981; Professional Staff Member of the Subcommittee on Defense, [Senate Appropriations Committee](#), 1977-1981; Vice Analyst in the Budget Office of the U.S. Air Force, Civilian, 1976

Birthday: March 8, 1951

Hometown: Spartanburg, S.C.

Alma Mater: Oberlin College, B.A. (History), 1973; University of Wisconsin at Madison, M.A. (History), 1975

Spouse: Married

Religion: Help Complete

DC Office: 269 Russell Senate Office Bldg Washington DC 20510-2202

### **Why He Matters**

Though he has never served in uniform, Lyles knows far more about the military than your average civilian. After all, Lyles, the chief of staff to [Sen. Carl Levin \(D-Mich.\)](#), has held civilian positions in the Pentagon and spent years working for the [Senate Armed Services Committee](#). WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1)WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

Lyles started his career as a civilian vice analyst in the budget office of the U.S. Air Force in 1976, and by the next year had started working at his first job on [Capitol Hill](#) on the [Senate Appropriations Committee's](#) subcommittee on defense. Marquis Who's Who, accessed June 16, 2011(2)Marquis Who's Who, accessed June 16, 2011

After a brief stint in the office of the [Defense Secretary](#), Lyles settled into his position at the [Senate Armed Services Committee](#), where he served for thirteen years from 1981 to 1994. Marquis Who's Who, accessed June 16, 2011(2)Marquis Who's Who, accessed June 16, 2011

During his tenure at the [Armed Services Committee](#), Lyles climbed his way to deputy staff director and worked on a variety of military issues, including annual national defense authorization acts and the Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986. WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011 "[Proposal to Repeal the Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986](#)," Congressional Budget Office, September 28, 1998. (3)WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011 "[Proposal to Repeal the Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986](#)," Congressional Budget Office, September 28, 1998.

Lyles worked closely on the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, which tried to create more efficient military procedures. "[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011(4)"[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011

Lyles served as staff director for 1995's Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, leading the effort to close unnecessary bases and reduce spending on military operations and maintenance. WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011 "[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011(5) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011 "[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011(4)"[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011

In 1996, Lyles briefly transferred over to the private sector, working for ITT Defense and Information Solutions, a U.S. defense contractor.

By 1997, at the behest of then-ranking member [Sen. Carl Levin](#), Lyles returned to the [Senate Armed Services Committee](#), to serve as Democratic staff director. WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

In 2003, Levin recruited Lyles to serve in his personal office as chief of staff. WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

"I try to run the office in the way that Sen. Levin operates," Lyles said. "I make sure that he gets the maximum amount of access to the staff he needs so that he is able to make the decisions that he needs to make." WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

Lyles has worked with Levin and other senators in crafting "wounded warrior" legislation that would help overhaul the relationship between the [Defense Department](#) and the [Veterans Affairs Department](#). WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

Further, since joining Levin's staff, Lyles said that they have worked vigorously to achieve regulatory reform and to get the economy back on track.

"Michigan was a state where manufacturing—the automobile industry, really—led to a creation of the middle class," Lyles said. "[Levin is] very familiar with that history and is aware that we need manufacturing to spur economic recovery as a whole." WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1) WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

## In His Own Words

"I've always felt that anonymity was the key to job security." WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011(1)

WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

2.

Marquis Who's Who, accessed June 16, 2011

3.

WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011 "[Proposal to Repeal the Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986](#)," Congressional Budget Office, September 28, 1998.

4.

"[Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990](#)." BRAC.gov, accessed June 16, 2011

5.

WhoRunsGov Interview with David Lyles, June 10, 2011

Source : [http://www.whorunsgov.com/Profiles/David\\_S.\\_Lyles](http://www.whorunsgov.com/Profiles/David_S._Lyles) checked 20 sept. 11

## Sources additionnelles :

First Street, Who's Who, CQ Directory/Press, Linked'In