

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank the other side for their support of the underlying bill and for their comments that give rise to the challenge we may have in actually funding the legislation.

Sixteen years ago, we had a Democratic majority, and we passed a budget and an economic plan. It passed without a single Republican vote—not one in the House, not one in the Senate. It was signed by President Clinton. In 8 years, we eliminated the debt.

As a matter of fact, at the end of the 8 years, when Chairman Greenspan was testifying before Congress, the questions he was asked were questions like: What will happen when we pay off the national debt? What will happen to the bond market? What will happen to interest rates when we pay off the national debt?

It was anticipated that year that we were to clear up all of the debt held by the public. The median income went up about \$7,000. Tens of millions of jobs were created. The Dow Jones industrial average more than tripled. Then in 2001, the Republican plan was adopted—the Republicans who have been lecturing on for the last few minutes about the economy.

As a direct result of their plan, we had the worst job performance since the Great Depression. The Dow Jones Industrial Average did not triple. It went down. The median income actually went down. We did not pay off the national debt. We almost doubled the national debt. We are now in a situation where we have to dig ourselves out of that mess. Everyone regrets the necessity of having to have a huge stimulus plan to get us out of the mess, but that is what we have had to do. We would like to listen to the other side and to their ideas, but unfortunately, as a result of recent history, we know where those ideas will put us. So we have a stimulus plan. Hopefully, it will get us out of the mess we are in so that we will have the funds to fund the CAMPUS Safety Act of 2009.

I would hope that the House would support the bill and would support the authorization. Then the next job we will do will be to actually fund it in order to get us out of the economic mess that we are in.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the CAMPUS Safety Act of 2009, H.R. 748.

First let me start by thanking Congressman SCOTT for his continued leadership on campus safety issues. He has been a steadfast supporter of establishing a National Center for Campus Public Safety as well as improving hate crime reporting on campuses under the federal Jeanne Clery Act.

Creation of a National Center for Campus Public Safety grew out of recommendations from a 2004 National Summit on Campus Public Safety convened by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, or COPS Office. The purpose of the Center is to support the field,

foster collaboration and lasting relationships, facilitate information sharing, and provide quality education on safety issues facing colleges in a post-September 11, 2001 world.

After the tragic incidents of gun violence at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007, at Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008, and on other campuses across the country, we were reminded just how important this work is and it took on a new urgency. The Center will be able to help campuses create partnerships with mental health professionals and others to catch problems before they escalate and implement proven strategies to respond should another tragedy strike.

This effort is also consistent with and an important follow-up to legislation I sponsored that was enacted last year as part of the Higher Education Opportunity Act, P.L. 110-315. This new provision, known as the Virginia Tech Victims Campus Emergency Response Policy and Notification Act, or "VTV Act" and a part of the federal Jeanne Clery Act, requires institutions to enact comprehensive emergency response plans that include means to issue immediate warnings when an emergency threatens the campus.

I look forward to the Center working with the U.S. Department of Education, the agency with jurisdiction over the Clery Act, and campuses across the country to help them fully implement these life-saving notification requirements. Making sure that institutions have a central resource to turn to for assistance with this will be one of the most important things that we in Congress can do to help secure our Nation's campuses.

Important groundwork for the Center has already been laid. In 2006 the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, Inc., IACLEA, received a grant to develop a strategic plan for the Center. Among other things they convened an advisory board comprised of key constituency groups to help guide this process.

I was especially pleased to see that a leading voice for students and families on campus safety issues—Security On Campus, Inc., SOC—was included at the table. It is imperative that SOC and other groups that represent the interests of those the Center is intended to protect, along with campus public safety professionals, continue to be heard as this process moves forward.

I would encourage the Attorney General and his staff to make sure that the COPS Office continues to reach out to diverse constituency groups and organizations that may have important resources to bring to bear.

Establishment of a National Center for Campus Public Safety will be a tremendous asset for our Nation's colleges and universities as they work to protect their students, employees, and others on campus.

I support the bill and ask my colleagues to join me.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 748.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING ACT OF 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 738) to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 738

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. STATE INFORMATION REGARDING INDIVIDUALS WHO DIE IN THE CUSTODY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year after the expiration of the period specified in subsection (c)(1) in which a State receives funds for a program referred to in subsection (c)(2), the State shall report to the Attorney General, on a quarterly basis and pursuant to guidelines established by the Attorney General, information regarding the death of any person who is detained, under arrest, or is in the process of being arrested, is en route to be incarcerated, or is incarcerated at a municipal or county jail, State prison, State-run boot camp prison, boot camp prison that is contracted out by the State, any State or local contract facility, or other local or State correctional facility (including any juvenile facility).

(b) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The report required by this section shall contain information that, at a minimum, includes—

- (1) the name, gender, race, ethnicity, and age of the deceased;
- (2) the date, time, and location of death;
- (3) the law enforcement agency that detained, arrested, or was in the process of arresting the deceased; and
- (4) a brief description of the circumstances surrounding the death.

(c) COMPLIANCE AND INELIGIBILITY.—

(1) COMPLIANCE DATE.—Each State shall have not more than 120 days from the date of enactment of this Act to comply with subsection (a), except that—

(A) the Attorney General may grant an additional 120 days to a State that is making good faith efforts to comply with such subsection; and

(B) the Attorney General shall waive the requirements of subsection (a) if compliance with such subsection by a State would be unconstitutional under the constitution of such State.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDS.—For any fiscal year after the expiration of the period specified in paragraph (1), a State that fails to comply with subsection (a), shall, at the discretion of the Attorney General, be subject to not more than a 10 percent reduction of the funds that would otherwise be allocated for that fiscal year to the State under subpart 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3750 et seq.), whether characterized as the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Programs, the Local Government Law Enforcement Block Grants Program, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, or otherwise.

(d) REALLOCATION.—Amounts not allocated under a program referred to in subsection (c)(2) to a State for failure to fully comply with subsection (a) shall be reallocated

under that program to States that have not failed to comply with such subsection.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section the terms “boot camp prison” and “State” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, in section 901(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3791(a)).

(f) STUDY AND REPORT OF INFORMATION RELATING TO DEATHS IN CUSTODY.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Attorney General shall carry out a study of the information reported under subsection (b) and section 3(a) to—

(A) determine means by which such information can be used to reduce the number of such deaths; and

(B) examine the relationship, if any, between the number of such deaths and the actions of management of such jails, prisons, and other specified facilities relating to such deaths.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that contains the findings of the study required by paragraph (1).

SEC. 3. FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year (beginning after the date that is 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act), the head of each Federal law enforcement agency shall submit to the Attorney General a report (in such form and manner specified by the Attorney General) that contains information regarding the death of any person who is—

(1) detained, under arrest, or is in the process of being arrested by any officer of such Federal law enforcement agency (or by any State or local law enforcement officer while participating in and for purposes of a Federal law enforcement operation, task force, or any other Federal law enforcement capacity carried out by such Federal law enforcement agency); or

(2) en route to be incarcerated or detained, or is incarcerated or detained at—

(A) any facility (including any immigration or juvenile facility) pursuant to a contract with such Federal law enforcement agency;

(B) any State or local government facility used by such Federal law enforcement agency; or

(C) any Federal correctional facility or Federal pre-trial detention facility located within the United States.

(b) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—Each report required by this section shall include, at a minimum, the information required by section 2(b).

(c) STUDY AND REPORT.—Information reported under subsection (a) shall be analyzed and included in the study and report required by section 2(f).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 738 will strengthen the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2000, a law which encourages constructive oversight of the conduct, of the arrests, of imprisonment, and of other forms of detention in our Nation's prisons and jails. If we are to have meaningful oversight, we have to at least know how many people are dying in our jails and prisons.

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The Death in Custody Act simply requires States and localities to simply report the fact that a death occurred and a brief description of what happened.

The bill reinforces the 2000 act's reporting requirements by authorizing the Attorney General to withhold a portion of the State's Byrne-Justice Assistance Grants if it is not in compliance with those requirements.

It will help improve oversight in two other additional ways. First, it applies the reporting requirements to Federal law enforcement authorities as well as States. As a result, Congress will have information for the entire incarcerated population in the United States, not just the State systems.

Second, H.R. 738 directs the Attorney General to examine data collected by the Bureau of Justice since the original act became effective to identify what practices are most effective in lowering the death rate in our Nation's prisons and jails. For example, the bureau reported in August of 2005 that there had been a 64 percent decline in suicides in custody and a 93 percent decline in homicides in custody since 1980.

The Attorney General's study should provide Congress with useful guidance on why the death rate was reduced, and what we can do to continue to lower it. Like the original Death In Custody Reporting Act of 2000, the bill enjoys broad bipartisan support. Statistics collected under the original act demonstrate that it can be exceptionally successful because those administering prisons and jails know that they will have to report each death in their custody and they may be held accountable for those deaths. And this bill not only continues the program but strengthens it. And I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 738, the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009. As my colleague, Chairman SCOTT, has mentioned a few moments ago, Congress passed a similar piece of legislation in the 110th Congress with overwhelming bipartisan support.

The Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2000 directs the Bureau of Justice Statistics within the Department of

Justice to collect data on deaths that occur in two primary stages of the criminal justice system: First, deaths occur “in the process of arrest” or during transfer after arrest; and second, deaths that occur in jail and in prisons.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics report that between 2001 and 2006 there were 18,550 State prisoner deaths. Likewise, there were an additional 5,935 local prisoner deaths and 43 juvenile deaths between 2000 and 2005.

Half of all State prison deaths are the result of heart disease and cancer; two-thirds involve inmates age 45 and older; and two-thirds are the result of medical problems which were present at the time of admission when they were incarcerated.

Although illness-related deaths have slightly increased in recent years, the homicide and suicide rates in State prisons have dramatically decreased over the last 25 years.

H.R. 738 reauthorizes this data collection program and directs the Attorney General to not simply collect the data but to study it, as well as to determine how to reduce deaths in custody in the future.

H.R. 738 incorporates several changes adopted by the Senate during the last Congress. In addition to collecting data from State and local agencies, the Attorney General is now directed to also collect data on the number of deaths that occur in Federal facilities each year.

The bill also ensures that those States that make a good faith effort to report this important data to the Attorney General will not automatically lose 10 percent of their Byrne-Justice Assistance Grants funding if their data submissions are untimely. The collection of this data will help Federal, State, and local governments examine the relationships between deaths in custody and the proper management of jail and prison facilities. It will also provide important information to Congress on how we may need to improve Federal custody procedures.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I will be prepared to close when the gentleman from Texas has yielded back his time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have two additional speakers, and I wish to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Madam Speaker, we are considering today a piece of legislation to report on the deaths of prisoners in Federal custody. As part of the responsibility of this Congress, we have to make sure those prisons are paid for. We've got to have the money to make sure we can pay for the operation of those prisons and keep those prisoners safe.

In order to have that money, we've got to exercise fiscal responsibility

here as guardians of the Treasury. Our highest priority as the elected representatives of the people who pay the taxes that pay for these lights, that pay for this House Chamber, we've got an obligation to protect their financial safety and security for the future. Not only the safety and securities of these prisoners, but more importantly, the safety and security of the American people.

In order to make sure we've got that money available, we need to be very, very thoughtful and careful and remember that we face a deficit of over \$1 trillion, a national debt of over \$10 trillion, unfunded liabilities of \$60 trillion-plus. The Comptroller tells us if you were to sell off every asset in America that proceeds might generate \$62 trillion.

So we've reached a point as a Nation, Madam Speaker, where our national assets—all of the private property owned by every one of us; sell the real estate, sell all your possessions—might generate \$62 trillion. That's how much unfunded liability we've got out there that our kids and grandchildren are going to have to pay for Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid.

And now all of this new spending that the majority—the new liberal majority has engaged in the biggest, most unrestrained profligate spending spree in the history of America in a short 17-day period—the change that the new majority has given America is it's spent \$1.3 trillion in a short 17 days. Not sure how we're even going to be able to assure the safety of prisoners in Federal custody much less the safety and security of Americans across the Nation when in 17 days we spent 50 percent, almost 50 percent more money than the entire annual budget of the United States.

My colleague, Chairman SCOTT, a man of good faith and sincerity, says he hopes that this financial stimulus package works. That's not enough. That's a scary hope. Where are the legions of economists? Where are the witnesses? Why wasn't there any testimony?

We had an appropriations hearing of about 6 hours to spend about \$800 billion, our piece of this bill. Ways and Means had a hearing of maybe about 6 hours. Normally, the entire annual budget of the United States, about \$900 billion, requires a year's worth of hearings, hundreds of witnesses, hundreds of hours of committee hearings and thoughtful deliberations by the committees of the Congress to generate the annual budget for the United States of about \$900 billion.

Yet this new liberal majority, this utterly unrestrained liberal majority in Congress has managed to spend in a short 17-day period \$1.3 trillion of borrowed money. Again, it's like me paying off my mortgage with my Master Card. It makes no sense.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional minute.

Mr. CULBERSON. And instead of, for example, this legislation that we've got on the floor today, Madam Speaker, to protect and report on the safety of prisoners in the prison system, one of the many responsibilities of Congress, this utterly irresponsible profligate spending that the new liberal majority has engaged in to stimulate the economy, 800 million for Amtrak, 4 million for climate change. What is this? We're going to have \$200 million for AmeriCorps, \$3 billion for prevention and wellness programs, including sexually transmitted diseases, \$4.2 billion for neighborhood stabilization activities. What is that? What does that have to do with protecting the financial safety and security of the American people?

We're spending money. I am a fiscal conservative. And by the way, Mr. SCOTT, I voted against most of those big spending programs that were pushed over the last 8 years. I have done my best, as a fiscal conservative, to vote against Medicare prescription drug, voted against the farm bills, voted against No Child Left Behind, voted against as much of these new big authorization spending programs as I can because I'm trying to think about what obligation I'm passing on to my daughter and future generations.

Madam Speaker, the best way to protect the safety of prisoners in prisons and the safety of the American people is for this Congress to cut spending and cut taxes and quit spending money we don't have.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ).

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Thank you, I appreciate it.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 738. I appreciate the good work and the action of the Congress and believe that this act will actually encourage better government which our citizens certainly support.

I also want to thank the men and women who are serving in these prisons. They go underappreciated and, in my opinion, undercompensated. That's why it gives me so much frustration as I see the out-of-control spending that this Congress is willing to pass forward.

I read about \$88 million for an ice-breaking ship in the polar region, and yet we're not taking care of the men and women who are there in the prisons protecting us against these criminals; \$248 million for furniture at the new Homeland Security headquarters. I just physically do not understand why this government, which is \$10 trillion in debt, which already has a \$3.1 trillion budget, a budget that over the course of the last 12 years has doubled, that there is not enough financial constraint because we need to take care of those men and women who are there protecting us in those prisons.

And while this act will go a long way to helping us understand what's happening within the system, I just am so frustrated and fed up with the Federal Government that cannot rein in spending as this so-called stimulus package has \$400 million for the Centers of Disease Control to screen and prevent STDs—there does not seem to have the priorities in place that we need as a Federal Government—\$75 million for smoking cessation activities.

Again, I think the American people demand limited government, fiscal discipline, which seems to be lacking in this Congress as the Democrats push forward, this liberal spending that we continue to see time and time again. \$10 million to inspect canals? \$10 million to inspect canals. I was actually glad to see a bill out there that actually had the word "millions" instead of "billions."

Now this bill, this act, that we look at today, H.R. 738, Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009, will go a long ways to making government better, but please let's take care of the men and women who are serving us; and let's take get rid of this excessive spending, rein in spending. We can't be all things to all people, but let's make sure that we do those things that matter most to the American people and get rid of this stimulus bill and get rid of the excessive spending that does nothing but put us further and further into debt.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009 has bipartisan support, and I appreciate the gentleman from Texas stating that support.

And I would also like to remind people, as the other side has, that we're going to have to come up with funds to do the research to make best use of the statistics that we gather.

There are essentially two totally different economic theories in place that we're consideration. One was in place for 8 years beginning in 1993, and the other was in place from 2001 till last year. The Democratic theory that passed without a Republican vote in either the House or the Senate created 8 years where we eliminated the entire deficit. If we hadn't messed up the budget, we would have, in 10 years, run up a \$5.5 trillion surplus, more than enough to pay Social Security for 75 years without reducing benefits.

We had created tens of millions of jobs, median income was up over \$7,000, the Dow Jones Industrial Average more than tripled. I think that was a good result.

We also have the Republican theory of economics that was in place beginning in 2001 that passed with the Republican House and Republican Senate and the Republican President. As a direct result of that plan, we had the worst job performance since the Great Depression; the Dow Jones Industrial

Average didn't triple, it went down; median income went down, and we ran up the national debt so much that it's almost doubled in the last 8 years rather than being eliminated as it would have been had the Democratic plan continued without getting messed up.

The stimulus that's been disparaged is necessary to try to dig us out of the mess that we're in. We all regret the fact that we need a stimulus, but had we not had the mess that we're in, we wouldn't have needed the stimulus.

And so, Madam Speaker, I close in support of the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009. It will continue the reporting that we've had and make best use of the statistics so that we can reduce these preventable deaths in the custody of law enforcement officers.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague Congressman BOBBY SCOTT for his leadership in seeking to bring transparency to the operation state and local prisons.

Congressman SCOTT's legislation, the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009, compels state and local governments to report deaths of prisoners in state prisons and local jails, and juvenile correctional facilities. This reporting is an incredibly useful oversight tool, and ensures accountability and transparency in our state and local facilities.

The data that will be reported under the bill will allow public officials and those in the non-profit sector to track mortality rates as related to illness, suicide, homicide, drug and alcohol use, and other causes of death. This data is crucial if we hope to reduce deaths in custody, and promote safer custody through the reduction of suicide, drug abuse, violence, and the provision of proper medical care.

Again, I applaud Congressman SCOTT for his efforts and leadership and urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 738.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 82)

raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking by establishing January 2009 as "National Stalking Awareness Month".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 82

Whereas in a 1-year period, an estimated 3,400,000 people in America reported being stalked, and 75 percent of victims are stalked by someone who is not a stranger;

Whereas 81 percent of women, who are stalked by an intimate partner, are also physically assaulted by that partner, and 76 percent of women, who are killed by an intimate partner, were also stalked by that intimate partner;

Whereas 11 percent reported having been stalked for more than 5 years and ¼ of victims reported having been stalked almost every day;

Whereas one in four victims reported that stalkers had used technology, such as e-mail or instant messaging, to follow and harass them, and one in 13 said stalkers had used electronic devices to intrude on their lives;

Whereas stalking victims are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, such as changing their identities; relocating, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas one in seven victims moved in an effort to escape their stalker;

Whereas approximately 130,000 victims reported having been fired or asked to leave their job because of the stalking, and about one in eight lost time from work because they feared for their safety or were taking steps, such as seeking a restraining order, to protect themselves;

Whereas less than half of victims report stalking to police and only 7 percent contacted a victim service provider, shelter, or hotline;

Whereas stalking is a crime that cuts across race, age, culture, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas stalking is a crime under Federal law and under the laws of all 50 States and the District of Columbia;

Whereas there are national organizations, local victim service organizations, prosecutors' offices, and police departments that stand ready to assist stalking victims and who are working diligently to craft competent, thorough, and innovative responses to stalking;

Whereas there is a need to enhance the criminal justice system's response to stalking and stalking victims, including aggressive investigation and prosecution, and to increase the availability of victim services across the country tailored to meet the needs of stalking victims; and

Whereas the House of Representatives urges the establishment of January 2009 as National Stalking Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(A) National Stalking Awareness Month provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about stalking;

(B) all Americans should applaud the efforts of the many victim service providers, police, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness about stalking; and

(C) policymakers, criminal justice officials, victim service and human service agencies, college campuses and universities,

and others should recognize the need to increase awareness of stalking and the availability of services for stalking victims; and

(2) the House of Representatives urges national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote awareness of the crime of stalking through National Stalking Awareness Month.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 82 is a bipartisan measure and will help raise awareness of the terrible toll that stalking is taking in our society. Every year, stalking affects millions of Americans of both genders and of all races and ages.

The consequences of stalking can be extremely serious. The fear and mental anguish can leave stalking victims paralyzed. Stalkers cause their victims severe emotional distress, including anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction and depression, which can affect all aspects of life, including family, social activities and work.

In fact, many stalking victims have been forced to relocate their residences and also frequently needed psychological counseling. Approximately 130,000 victims reported being fired or forced to find work elsewhere because they've been stalked.

Stalking also leads to physical attacks on the victim. This explains why most States and the Federal Government treats stalking as a felony. Over 75 percent of women murdered by an intimate partner have been stalked by that partner. Advances in technology have given stalkers ever-increasing access to their victim's personal information, making the victim even more vulnerable.

I'd like to commend my Judiciary Committee colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), for his leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Resolution 82.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud to have introduced House Resolution 82, establishing January as National Stalking Awareness Month.

I hope this resolution serves as a unifying force for the community leaders,