

preventable air crash near Buffalo. Due to their passion and dedication, Congress passed historic aviation safety reforms 2 years ago. But this bill would prevent many of those reforms from becoming reality.

Our colleague, KATHY HOCHUL attempted to offer an amendment to protect these reforms from this moratorium. Inexplicably, the Rules Committee blocked her amendment. These reforms have the support of both parties, but now partisan politics is getting in the way of lifesaving regulations. I urge the defeat of this anti-safety legislation.

CONDEMNING THE ATROCITIES THAT OCCURRED IN AURORA, COLORADO

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of July 25, 2012, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 134) condemning, in the strongest possible terms, the heinous atrocities that occurred in Aurora, Colorado, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 134

Whereas, on July 20, 2012, an armed gunman opened fire at a movie theater in Aurora, Colorado, killing 12 and wounding 58 others;

Whereas many individuals at the theater selflessly sought to aid and protect others above their own safety;

Whereas the Aurora Police Department and the Aurora Fire Department quickly and bravely acted to prevent the additional loss of life; and

Whereas local, State, and Federal law enforcement, firefighter, and medical service professionals performed their duties with utmost skill and coordination: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the heinous atrocities that occurred in Aurora, Colorado;

(2) offers its condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those who were killed in the attack and expresses its hope for the rapid and complete recovery of the wounded;

(3) applauds the hard work and dedication exhibited by the hundreds of local, State, and Federal officials and the others who offered their support and assistance; and

(4) honors the resilience of the community of the City of Aurora and the State of Colorado in the face of such adversity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, July 25, 2012, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN).

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, we can never explain nor fully comprehend evil, but last Friday we were reminded of its existence. The face of evil emerged when a cold blood-

ed, calculating mass murderer trapped unsuspecting movie patrons packed in a darkened theater in my hometown of Aurora, Colorado.

Today, on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, we pause to again remember the victims of this horrendous crime and to honor the courage of so many who put their own lives at risk to limit the carnage.

The victims who lost their lives in the early morning hours of last Friday are: Veronica Moser, age 6; Alex Teves, age 24; Jessica Ghawi, age 24; Alex Sullivan, age 27; Matt McQuinn, age 27; Micayla Medek, age 23; John Larimer, age 27; A.J. Boik, age 18; Rebecca Wingo, age 32; John Blunk, age 26; Jesse Childress, age 29; Gordon Cowden, age 51.

Aurora is a proud suburban community, mostly of working class and middle class families, who share basic American values, the values of hard work, and of faith in God, and of family.

My family came to Aurora, Colorado, in 1964 when my father, a career soldier, was sent to Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center for his last assignment in the U.S. Army. Back then, Aurora was just a small town surrounded by three military bases. In the 1970s, Aurora transitioned away from being a military town, although it still has an Air Force base. Aurora has grown to become the third-largest city in the State of Colorado, with a population of over 300,000 residents. Aurora has also grown to become the most racially and ethnically diverse city in the State of Colorado.

Aurora has received the "All-American City Award" by the National League of Cities in recognition of being a community whose citizens work together to identify and tackle community-wide challenges and for having achieved uncommon results. A couple of weeks ago, I was at a meeting with the Aurora Board of Realtors where Mayor Steve Hogan was speaking. He proudly informed the audience that Aurora was ranked as the eighth-safest city of its size in the country.

□ 0920

No doubt we are still in shock and trying to understand why this happened to our community.

The theater where so many lost their lives and where so many were injured lies in the heart of our city. The vacant ground beside the theater has been designated by our city's planners to be the future site of the City Center.

Aurora will never be the same after this horrific act of evil that occurred last week, but the citizens of Aurora are caring and resilient, and a long process of healing has already begun. We will stand together and come back stronger than before this attack.

When I think of all the victims of this tragedy and how much our community has suffered, I am reminded by a refrain from a hymn that I have often sung in church:

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity the other day for us to have a moment of silence. I know it was important to the members of our delegation as well as to the people of our community in Aurora, Colorado, and the whole metropolitan area.

I had a chance to speak on Tuesday. I have a number of things to say, but I know each of us in our delegation bears a heavy heart as a result of all this, and I would like others to be able to share some of their thoughts.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to my friend from Boulder, Mr. POLIS.

Mr. POLIS. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. PERLMUTTER from Colorado, not only for bringing forward this resolution, but for spending time with those affected in the aftermath of this. I'd also like to thank President Obama for immediately changing his plans and coming to Colorado to express, on behalf of our Nation, grief and provide what comfort he could to the victims and their families.

I think one thing that's important for Americans to understand is Aurora is a community just like yours. My district is several miles from Aurora, but I've been to movies myself in Aurora. I drive through it frequently on the way to the airport.

This could be anywhere. It's a safe community. It's a community of loving families. It's a growing city. And the tragedy that occurred could have been at any one of our neighborhood theaters.

Going to the movie theater, an expression of innocent joy, something that people have grown up with for generations, the magic of the silver screen and lives torn apart, not only those who lost their lives tragically, not only those who were injured, some of whom remain in the hospital, but all the others that were terrified, scared in the other theater, in the other movie theaters that night, in the community at large, this was, in many ways, a crime against innocence and a crime against enjoyment and diversion. People turn to movies, turn to entertainment for a moment's respite, a moment's entertainment from their daily lives, and this tragic end really represents an end of innocence for so many people that were affected.

But so, too, we've seen many great heroes rise to the occasion: the courageous responders, the community of Aurora, Mayor Hogan, the families of those affected, and our criminal justice system. We all come together in difficult times. We all come together, and together with the love, respect, and support from American families across the country, the victims' families know that they're not alone, and that's important.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TIPTON).

Mr. TIPTON. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I think that we all struggle to be able to find words to be able to address a flash point in time in the city of Aurora to where we saw the absolute worst of humanity in the senseless slaughter of innocent people. But we also saw the best of humanity as people rose to be able to protect their loved ones, as we saw emergency service personnel rush to the scene to be able to operate in the hospitals where doctors and nurses fought valiantly to be able to preserve life.

As we look back on that day, we can't help but be reminded that too many lives were cut short, and chapters that were yet to be written needlessly and mindlessly were cut off.

The hearts of all Coloradans and, in fact, what we've seen demonstrated on this floor I think speaks to the heart of this country, as people rose as one to be able to express their empathy and their concern. We saw neighbors and strangers reaching out and helping hands all praying for that opportunity and ability to be able to find the right words, if there could ever be such words, to offer some modicum of comfort to those who suffered such a tragic loss.

This is a date that certainly our State and the people of Aurora will never forget. It has touched each and every one of our hearts, and you can not help but condemn, obviously, the act. But each one of us, I think, this day and for days, weeks, months, and years to come, will continue to offer up prayers for those who lost their lives, for the families that were affected, and our thanks, our thanks for those who showed such love and concern, and for all the emergency service personnel who were there to defend people who just were out for a good evening.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud this resolution and this Colorado delegation's standing together today to be able to express this and thank this House for the support that they've shown, as well, for the people of Colorado.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 3 minutes to DIANA DEGETTE, my friend from Denver, who had a number of constituents in the movie theater that evening.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my dear friend and colleague, ED PERLMUTTER, for yielding to me.

This is a difficult week for all of us in Colorado.

There were two movie theaters in the Denver metro area that were showing this premiere at midnight last Thursday night. So there were people from all over the community in that theater there with their families and their friends, almost the entire employees of a restaurant in Colorado. They went to have a fun evening on a summer night. And tragedy, of course, struck that night unexpectedly to everybody.

I've been overwhelmed, as we all have in the delegation, by the support of the community for all of the victims of the shooting and their families.

□ 0930

The way the communities have come together—Aurora and Denver and Inglewood and all of the communities—has been a blessed thing to see for all of us.

No one can make sense of a tragedy like this, and the stories of heroism are still coming out every day. The stories of miracles—babies born just a day or two after in the same hospital where the father lies in a coma. Yet while we hear all of these stories of heroism and while we hear all of the stories of first responders rushing to the scene and helping within 90 seconds, in our heart we say: How can this happen and what can we do?

I did have a number of constituents in that theater, some who were just injured, some who were in the nearby theaters who will be scarred psychologically forever by this, a close friend of my daughter, and others. I had at least three constituents who were killed by this terrible crime. The little girl, Veronica Moser, age 6—whose mother, Ashley, lies in critical condition—Jessica Ghawi and Alex Teves. Our prayers and thoughts go out to all of them and their families.

It's wonderful to see my friends from the delegation here, the entire House delegation from Colorado. We consider ourselves to be close allies, although we often disagree on different issues.

I just want to say something to all of my colleagues and to everyone in this House, Mr. Speaker. We have now had, as of today, 25 moments of silence as respects victims of gun violence since the Columbine shooting. I was here for that too. We had two moments of silence just the other day, one for Aurora and one for the anniversary of the Capitol police officer who was killed 10 years ago today.

So we can have our debates, we can have our discussions, we can mourn for the victims, which is appropriate this week; but it is our challenge, as leaders of our State and leaders of our country, to go on from today and to say: What can we seriously do as a Nation to make sure that no tragedy of this scope or horror ever happens in this country again?

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Representative MIKE COFFMAN and Representative ED PERLMUTTER for leading this time this morning.

Mr. Speaker, the fact that the entire delegation—bipartisan delegation—is here is just a small reflection of how the people of Colorado are coming together and the people of Aurora are coming together after this senseless tragedy.

We've heard a lot of stories of bravery, both on the parts of the first re-

sponders and the parts of everyday citizens. I want to tell a story of one of the victims.

I'd like to share the story of Caleb Medley. Caleb is from the small town of Florence, just south of Colorado Springs. Today, Caleb lies in a medically induced coma after being shot in the face. In the days since that horrific shooting, his wife, Katie, has given birth to their first child, Hugo.

Caleb spent his teen years in Florence; and after graduating from high school, he married his high school sweetheart, Katie. He went to work at a local grocery store. Like most people, he and Katie have big plans and dreams for their lives. From the time he was in eighth grade, Caleb has wanted to be a standup comedian. Katie wants to work in veterinarian medicine. The young couple moved to the Denver suburb of Aurora to pursue their dreams.

On July 18, just 2 days before the shooting, Caleb appeared at the Comedy Works and did well enough to advance to the next round. And he and his wife, Katie, were looking forward to their baby's birth a few days later. But before little Hugo could be born, Caleb and Katie made the fateful decision to go out one last night before becoming parents. According to a Web site that Caleb's family has posted, the two stood anxiously in line that night. They spent too much on popcorn and soda. They endured the movie trailers, and they watched the beginning of the movie. That's when evil struck. Evil came to them through a man that opened fire in that movie theater.

Katie and baby Hugo made it out uninjured, but Caleb was struck in the face by gunfire. Caleb has lost his right eye, has some brain damage, and doctors have put him in a medically induced coma.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask that the people of America would be praying for Caleb and his family. We are pulling for you, Caleb, and for all the victims of this senseless tragedy.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I thank my friend DOUG for describing in detail one of these injuries.

I'd like to introduce, Mr. Speaker, if I could, for the RECORD some brief biographical information of each of the victims who was killed: John Blunk, Alexander Jonathan "AJ" Boik, Jesse Childress, Gordon Cowden, Jessica Ghawi, John Larimer, Micayla Medek, Veronica Moser, Alex Sullivan, Alex Teves, and Rebecca Wingo, because I want our RECORD in this Congress to have their names and some information about them. And I appreciate you talking about somebody specifically.

These are hard moments for all of us. These are good people, and some very bad things happened to some very good people. But I want to talk about some of the positive aspects that came out of this dreadful night.

Thirteen years ago—DIANA DEGETTE mentioned Columbine—on the southwest side of my district I have Columbine, on the northeast side of my

district I have this theater. Colorado is a good place. I mean, all of us love where we come from. We've had some violent incidents that have taken our innocence, as Mr. POLIS has said. We heal from these things, but you're never quite the same. You're never quite the same. But one of the positive aspects of that terrible incident 13 years ago at Columbine High School was that our law enforcement, our first responders, our police, our firefighters, our medical teams learned some real lessons.

We have, in the Aurora area, a community college called Aurora Community College, where we have gone through a number of exercises to deal with a mass casualty incident such as this, where the police, the fire, law enforcement agencies from across our communities—Denver, Adams, Arapahoe Counties—work together with the CU Medical School to address these kinds of incidents, and the chief of police, Dan Oates, who deserves a higher place in heaven for the way he has managed this terrible time on behalf of law enforcement. They've prepared and prepared and prepared. Unbelievably, this terrible tragedy happened, but because of that preparation, because of what we had gone through before and the terrible lessons we learned, lives were saved. There's no question about it; lives were saved that otherwise would have been lost.

I want to applaud, again, the Aurora police, the Aurora firefighters, the medical teams—casualties were taken to six or seven different hospitals in our area—but they all did an outstanding job. The dispatchers, can you imagine all the 911 calls that came in that night. We want to thank them.

We want to thank the FBI. Jim Yacone, who is our bureau chief, was outstanding on behalf of the Federal response to deal both with the shootings that occurred in the theater and the elaborate booby trap that was set in this apartment—that I drive by at least once a week—right across from the University of Colorado. This is something that we will heal from, but we will never be the same.

And I just want to thank the Aurora schools, which provided a place of safety for all of these individuals to go at the time of this incident.

□ 0940

I want to thank the ministerial alliance. As Mr. COFFMAN said, this is a community of great faith, and our churches and our synagogues have responded in a tremendous fashion to the sorrow that we all feel.

There are many stories, some beautiful ones. The President shared one.

Before I go further, Mr. Speaker, can I inquire as to the time on both sides, because I know I have a couple of other speakers that would like to speak.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) has 4½ minutes. The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I would just mention the story, and this is one that I'm so proud of people from Colorado. There were two young women in the back of the theater when the gentleman came in and threw a tear gas canister across the theater. And the taller of the two noticed that it really was something other than a smoke bomb and a stunt, and she stood up to warn people, and she was shot in the neck immediately.

Blood started to spurt out. Her smaller friend pulled her down, compressed that wound, and the older one said something, or the one who'd been shot said something like you need to leave, you need to get out of here. And her friend said, I'm not leaving without you, and continued to press.

The police responded very quickly, but it probably seemed like an eternity. But the young lady who was shot in the neck is on the mend and is going to recover fully, and her friend, basically, saved her life, and the quick actions of the police and the fire department.

So despite these terrible losses that we've suffered, and there are so many heartbreaking stories, there are some heartwarming stories as well.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

JULY 20, 2012 AURORA THEATER SHOOTING
VICTIMS

REBECCA WINGO, 32

Steve Hernandez wrote, "I lost my daughter yesterday to a mad man, my grief right now is inconsolable, I hear she died instantly, without pain, however the pain is unbearable." Friends said Saturday that Wingo's parents also posted a message about Wingo's death on Wingo's own Facebook page. That page shows a picture of two young girls. A friend, Gail Riffle, brought two teddy bears, one pink and one white, to the memorial site near the movie theater for Wingo's daughters, as well as roses for Wingo's parents. "Everybody is hurting right now," Riffle said. "She was a gentle, sweet, beautiful soul." Rebecca Wingo listed Joe's Crab Shack as her employer on Facebook, and a manager at the restaurant in Aurora confirmed Wingo worked there. He deferred comment to the restaurant's corporate office, which is closed on Saturday. Rebecca Wingo had been enrolled at the Community College of Aurora since fall 2009 and had been working toward an associate of arts degree.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Funeral: Friday, July 27, 2012—TBD.

JON BLUNK, 26

Jon Blunk, 26, was shot to death in the Aurora Theater while trying to protect his girlfriend, Jansen Young. Jon Blunk went to Proctor Hug High School in Reno. After his 2004 high school graduation, he enlisted in the Navy and served aboard the USS Nimitz in San Diego. Blunk left the Navy and moved to Colorado in 2009. He had been working at a hardware store at the time of the theater shooting.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Funeral: Friday, August 3, 2012—1:00 pm PDT, Mountain View Mortuary, 425 Stoker Avenue, Reno, NV 89503.

Note: Full military funeral and burial.

The viewing which will only be attended by family and not advertised will be on Thursday, August 2nd from 11 am–5 pm.

ALEXANDER JONATHAN "AJ" BOIK, 18

AJ Boik was being remembered Saturday as a talented and kind man who enjoyed baseball, making pottery and music. Boik's plans included attending Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in the fall. His family said his dream was to become an art teacher and open his own studio. "AJ Boik was a wonderful, handsome and loving 18-year-old young man with a warm and loving heart," the family said in a statement. Survived by mother Theresa Hoover; father Jon Boik; brother Wil Boik; grandparents Bill & Sue Hoover, Cora Lou Tarrant and Emil Boik; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Visitation: Thurs., 1:00–5:30 pm, Horan & McConaty Family Chapel, 11150 E. Dartmouth Ave., Aurora.

Funeral: Friday, July 27, 2012—10 am MDT, Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 13120 E Kentucky Ave, Aurora.

Memorial Donations suggested to the A.J. Boik Memorial Fund, c/o Wells Fargo Bank. Share condolences at HoranCares.com.

JESSE CHILDRRESS, 29

Jesse Childress, 29, Air Force Reservist, lived in Thornton, CO. Jesse worked as a cyber systems operator and was on active duty at Buckley Air Force Base. He loved sports and comic books, friends say. Nearly every day of the week, Jesse Childress spent his evenings playing sports with friends. Monday it was softball. Tuesday it was bowling. Another night, it was flag football.

The base released a statement Saturday: "This tragic event has affected everybody here at Buckley Air Force Base and our local community friends and neighbors," base commander Col. Daniel Dant said in a statement. "We are deeply saddened by the loss of each and every loved one." According to the Air Force Reserve Command, Childress worked as a cyber systems operator and was currently on active duty.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Funeral: Saturday, July 28, 2012—12:00 pm MDT—Base Chapel, Buckley Air Force Base—Aurora, CO.

Following the funeral, there will be a procession to Ft Logan where the interment will take place at 3:00 pm MDT. There are also plans in works for a reception back at the base (not sure if at the chapel or LDC at this time) somewhere around 5:00 pm–6:00 pm MDT, no firm plans are in place yet.

GORDON W. COWDEN, 51

Gordon Ware Cowden was born on November 17, 1960 in Waco, Texas. Father of Kristian, Weston, Brooke and Cierra; son of George and Mollie; brother of Graves, George (Shirley), Gaylynn (Ken) Kendall. He is also survived by the mother of his children Melisa. Cowden is the son of former Texas State Representative George M. Cowden, according to the Austin Statesman. Cowden had taken his two teenage children to the theater the night of the shooting. The teenagers escaped unharmed.

Gordon W. Cowden, 51 of Aurora, Colorado, was the oldest of the victims killed.

His family released this statement: "Loving father, outdoorsman and small business owner, Cowden was a true Texas gentleman that loved life and his family. A quick witted world traveler with a keen sense of humor, he will be remembered for his devotion to his children and for always trying his best to do the right thing, no matter the obstacle."

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Funeral: Wednesday, July 25, 2012—11 am MDT, Pathways Church, 1595 Pearl Street, Denver, CO.

Please share memories at HoranCares.com.

JESSICA GHAWI, 24

Jessica Ghawi was an up-and-coming sportscaster who loved hockey. Jessica Ghawi, 24, grew up a hockey fan in football-crazed Texas. She followed that passion to Colorado to forge a career in sports journalism. It probably took her to Toronto, where she walked out of a shopping-mall food court moments before a gunman shot seven people. Writing as Jessica Redfield in a June 5 blog entry, she described how the experience reminded her "how blessed I am for each second I am given."

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Funeral: Saturday, July 28, 2012—10 am CDT, Community Bible Forever New Church, 2477 North Loop 1604 East, San Antonio, TX.

Church staffers said they do not have any information on whether the event will be open to the public. They plan an announcement with more details by Wednesday.

JOHN LARIMER, 27

Petty Officer Third Class John Thomas Larimer was among those killed in the attack at an Aurora movie theater. Larimer, 27, joined the Navy in June 2011 and was a cryptology technician third class. For the past year, he had been stationed at the U.S. Fleet Cyber Command station at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora. "I am incredibly saddened by the loss of Petty Officer John Larimer," Cmdr. Jeffrey Jakuboski, Larimer's commanding officer, said in a statement. "He was an outstanding shipmate. A valued member of our Navy team, he will be missed by all who knew him." Larimer was from Crystal Lake, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. He wanted to be deployed for two simple reasons: He wanted to protect his country, and he wanted to save others from danger and harm.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

The family of the Navy Intelligence officer is planning a public visitation from 3 to 9 p.m. July 27 at the Davenport Family Funeral Home in Crystal Lake, Ill.

His funeral and burial will be private.

MATT MCQUINN, 27

As a gunman calmly walked up the aisle of the Aurora movie theater Friday firing at moviegoers, McQuinn dove on top of Samantha Yowler. Her brother Nick Yowler, 32, also tried to shield her, said Robert L. Scott, attorney for both the McQuinn and Yowler families. Samantha Yowler, 27, was shot in the knee. Her brother escaped without injury. But McQuinn, from St. Paris, Ohio, was not as fortunate. Matt McQuinn graduated from Vandalia-Butler High School in 2004. He met Yowler while the two were working at a Target store in Springfield, according to the Dayton Daily News. In November, the couple transferred to a Target store in Denver, joining Yowler's brother who had lived in Colorado for the past few years.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Visitation: Friday, July 27, 2012—2-4 pm & 6-8 pm EDT, Maiden Lane Church of God, 1201 Maiden Lane Springfield, OH 45504.

Funeral: Saturday, July 28th—10am EDT, Maiden Lane Church of God, 1201 Maiden Lane Springfield, OH 45504.

His burial will be at Lawrenceville Cemetery in Clark County.

MICAYLA MEDEK, 23

On her Facebook page, Micayla Medek, 23, identified herself as a Subway sandwich artist. A graduate of William C. Hinkley High School in Aurora, she said she was a member

of the class of 2015 of the Community College of Aurora. "I'm a simple independent girl who's just trying to get her life together while still having fun," she wrote. She is survived by her parents, Greg and Rena; brother, Shane; sister, Amanda; grandparents, Laurin and Marlene Knobbe; grandmother, Caroline Medek; and numerous other relatives and friends.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Visitation: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 from 2 pm to 9 pm MDT, Newcomer Funeral Home & Crematory, 190 N. Potomac, Aurora, CO.

Funeral: Thursday, July 26, 2012—11 am MDT, New Hope Baptist Church, 3701 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO.

VERONICA MOSER, 6

Veronica Moser will always be six years old. The "vibrant, excitable" blond-haired, blue-eyed little girl, who was bragging four days ago about learning how to swim, was one of the 12 people who died in the Aurora theater shooting. Ashley Moser, Veronica's mother, remains in critical condition at Aurora Medical Center. The 25-year-old was shot in the neck, and doctors are unable to remove the bullet. Moser also suffered a gunshot wound in the abdomen. She passes in and out of consciousness, Dalton said, and does not yet know that her daughter has died. Doctors said that Moser, who was recently accepted to medical school, will hopefully recover with some use of her hands, Dalton said.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

No details as of 7/25/12.

ALEX SULLIVAN, 27

Alex Sullivan, 27, was celebrating his birthday with co-workers from Red Robin restaurant at the midnight showing of "The Dark Knight" when he was killed. Sullivan was also about to celebrate his one-year wedding anniversary. "The Sullivan family lost a cherished member of their family today," a release from the family said. "Alex was smart, funny, and above all loved dearly by his friends and family."

Tina Desautels from APWU let us know Alex Sullivan is the son of a postal worker in Aurora—Tom Sullivan.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

Visitation (Public): Thursday, July 26, 2012 from 12 pm to 4 pm MDT at The Heartlight Center, 11150 E. Dartmouth Avenue, Aurora, CO.

Funeral: Friday, July 27, 2012—TBD.

ALEX TEVES, 24

Shooting victim Alex Teves, 24, recently earned his master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Denver. A friend, identified only as Caitlin on Twitter, posted messages on the social media network early Friday from the Century 16 theater, and wrote on Twitter early Saturday that Teves was, "One of the best men I ever knew. The world isn't as good a place without him." She also described Teves as a fan of the University of Arizona and Spider-Man. A University of Denver spokeswoman said Teves, from Phoenix, Ariz., graduated in June. An official notice of Teves' death will be sent to the University of Denver community later Saturday. Teves' personal Facebook page lists him as a 2010 graduate of the University of Arizona, and a 2006 graduate of Desert Vista High School in Phoenix.

MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION

The Teves family is planning to hold memorial services in Arizona and New Jersey, however more specific details have not yet been released.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I too rise in support of Mr.

PERLMUTTER's comments in relationship to our own Aurora Police Department, as well as all the other law enforcement entities that have helped in this terrible tragedy.

I now yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER).

Mr. GARDNER. I thank the gentleman from Aurora for yielding time to share today, and thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) for your leadership and your comfort and encouraging words during an incredible tragedy.

And to the President, thank you for sharing your love with Colorado, as well as to Governor Hickenlooper for the leadership that he has provided throughout this past week.

This Chamber has seen its incredible days of victories, of celebrations, of great triumphs for this country. And today we discuss a resolution that talks about one of our Nation's great tragedies. And so we join together as a delegation to talk about an event that we, in Colorado, know we will not let remain a tragedy, but will turn into remembrance of those who are good in our State and our country.

We oftentimes in Colorado forget because of the great beauty of our State that sometimes the hearts of all people don't match that beauty. But as we sat at the prayer vigil this past Sunday and looked out as the rays of sun broke through the clouds, on the choir, on the many people of faith who had gathered, we know that this one dark moment in history will be matched by far greater light. And it's our obligation to make sure that that indeed happens.

As a father, I can't imagine the great loss of families and friends, the victims of this horrendous crime. And our hearts, our prayers, our thoughts go with them as we build a stronger community going forward.

The many people of faith who have prayed, the people in this body who have shared their prayers and thoughts with the community of Colorado remind me of a passage in the book of Matthew, where Jesus went out onto the lake in the middle of a storm with his disciples, and he looked out upon the stormy waters and he said, peace be still. And we ask that those who are troubled, those whose hearts are yet to heal, we ask for the peace that we all so desperately need.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PERLMUTTER for yielding, and I'm very sad to join my colleagues in expressing the deepest sympathies of the House of Representatives to the families and loved ones of the victims in Aurora, Colorado, and to the entire community as it grapples with its grief.

My colleagues have spoken very movingly from the standpoint of faith; and, hopefully, that faith will be a comfort to those who are affected.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, when we learned of this tragedy, the President ordered flags to be flown at half staff for 1 week to commemorate the tragedy that Aurora, these individual families, and our country had suffered. That was done as a mark of respect for the 12 innocent victims of the senseless violence and for all who were affected.

Of the victims who were murdered, and that's just the word that day, the vast majority were very young people. The one, Gordon Cowden, was a father in his fifties—well, that seems young to me; the others were very young—whose last words to his daughters were to tell them he loved them.

Each of them has a story that deserves to be told. Each was beloved. Each left home with a different expectation of what would happen that evening, and so did the rest of the country.

Several died protecting their loved ones, including John Blunk, Alex Teves and Matt McQuinn. Alex Sullivan was about to celebrate his 1-year wedding anniversary, and that was the celebration, going out to the movies.

A.J. Boik had just graduated from high school. Jessica Ghawi dreamed of being a sports journalist. Micayla Medek and Rebecca Wingo were pursuing their futures at community college.

Two victims, Jesse Childress and John Larimer, were Active Duty military personnel. They signed up to risk their lives for our country to protect our freedom. Who could have ever thought that they would lose their lives going to the movies?

And as a child, Veronica Moser will now forever be remembered as the 6-year-old. What a sad tragedy.

Most of us here in this body are parents and grandparents, and in STENY's case, a great-grandparent, and every person knows the feeling of sending a child off to a movie with their friends, the excitement of an opening night, and then the worry when the minutes tick by and someone hasn't come home.

It is with heavy hearts that we send our thoughts and prayers to the many grieving today, and we continue to pray—thank you for taking us down that path; we continue to pray for the healing of those who survived, both their physical pain and their emotional scars. That's probably the hardest.

We send our gratitude to our first responders. Within minutes, when minutes counted, when seconds counted, they responded with bravery and with professionalism.

In the words of this resolution, the Congress "honors the resilience of the community of the City of Aurora and the State of Colorado in the face of such adversity."

May you feel the support and love and prayers of our Nation. May those tragically taken from us be honored and remembered. May time heal our grief.

I hope it is a comfort to those who are affected by this tragedy, who lost

loved ones, or have injuries in their families, that so many people throughout the world mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

□ 0950

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 134.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I again inquire about the balance of time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman from Colorado, who has been so involved and so eloquent in expressing the grief that his constituents share, as have been all the Members from Colorado on either side of the aisle who have come together to share this grief.

Mr. Speaker, when tragedy of this kind strikes, our hearts go out to those whose lives were cut short and to those who lost loved ones. In the aftermath of this shooting, we have seen both an outpouring of love and support for the victims and their families and a quickness to point out what might have been done differently. That is our nature as Americans—always seeking answers, searching for corrective action, for a measure of logic amid the irrational.

But the first question we ought to ask and is already being asked is: How can we draw closer as a community? Not just the community of Aurora, but the community of Americans.

As President Obama said on Friday:

If there's anything to take away from this tragedy, it's the reminder that life is very fragile. And what matters at the end of the day is not the small things; ultimately, it's how we choose to treat one another and how we love one another.

I would add it is also how we commit to live with one another as neighbors.

We may not share the same faith or politics or philosophy, but we do share a fundamental belief that our people should feel safe in our theaters and malls and schools, in their homes and on the streets—wherever they go. And, today, we share the pain of the people of Aurora.

But we also share in the hope that the city whose name is the "dawn" will find in our sympathy and prayers the comfort it needs during this dark hour to begin the process of healing and to believe again in a brighter tomorrow.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I would just like to end, Mr. Speaker, by thanking my friends—and they are my friends—and colleagues from Colorado.

From all of us, Aurora and everybody who has been so affected by this senseless act, we are praying for you. We love you.

This act actually affected people from one coast to the other. A lot of people from all over the Nation were there. In fact, at the time, from a nearby military base, there were 53 members of our military—Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines—who were in that theater that night. This is something that touches us all, something that we will all remember. We will heal. Let's hope and pray something like this doesn't happen again.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE SENSE TO FIND . . .
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

The . . .
The sense to find . . .
As now we so ask why?
So ask why?
All in our hearts and minds . . .
Hearts and minds!
As the tears we find . . .
We find!
All because of this most evil crime . . .
For all of those most precious lost lives . . .
Lost lives!
And for all of those injured who must now so
rebuild their lives!
The tears we find!
As all of those smiles so come to mind . . .
And all of that pain these families must now
so carry until the end of time!
Of all of those lost loved ones and their most
precious lost lives!
Precious lives!
As it's here we so ask why?
Ask why?
For where does the answer lie?
So lie!
All in that old age question, that rhyme!
Of Good versus Evil, as old as mankind!
Goodness . . . Evil . . . Darkness . . . Light!
This battle, this endless fight!
To bring the light!
As we so ask why?
Ask why?
All in your hearts this night!
Take these words of hope to but bring the
light!
That still, the darkness is but no match for
The Light!
For The Light!
For hope and love, will ever so rise above all
of this blight!
This blight!
Let not all in your pain and heartache, let
not escape!
The strength to so find!
For hate is hard!
It makes me cry!
When, I see those tears in your families'
eyes!
As we so try to the sense to find . . .
To find!
But, take comfort all in your hearts and
minds . . .
Hearts and minds!
All in your souls now so very deep down in-
side!
As up to Heaven, all of these twelve innocent
souls have now so taken flight!
Taken flight!
To Heaven find, to become Angels with our
Lord on high!
As all in our Lord's arms they now so lie!
This very night!
As from your most swollen eyes the tears
you now so wipe!
So wipe!
So find the sense to find!

And say a prayer for all of them,
and all of those, and their loved ones who
now so cry!

So cry!

Whose pain shall not so die!

So die!

And somehow find the strength,

all in what their short lives so meant!

All in the hope and light,

that over evil . . . the goodness so burns
bright!

Burns bright!

To the sense to find,

upon this very night!

The sense to find!

As we lay their sacred bodies so down to rest!

Amen!

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 134 and in support of the greater Denver community in the wake of the Aurora, Colorado tragedy.

Twelve lives have been lost, 58 injured, and countless others affected by the shooting in Aurora, Colorado on July 20, 2012.

This horrible crime reminds us that our time here is short, and that while we cannot always prevent senseless acts of violence, families, friends and neighbors can come together as a community to honor those we have lost, celebrate those who are still with us, and resolve to do all we can to prevent future violence.

The Aurora community has exemplified this spirit of resiliency in the wake of tragedy, and is truly an inspiration for all of us.

While we know not every senseless act of violence can be avoided, we can—and must—work every day to treat each other with decency and genuine respect.

And I hope that this act of violence will not just sit on a page in our history books, but be a catalyst for the important conversations we have avoided all too long.

There is more that we can do to protect our families and communities from gun violence.

There is more that we can do to support our mental health care systems—both to avert future violence and to support those who are touched by it.

And there is more that we can do to create a culture of tolerance and understanding.

We stand together across our nation, knowing we are not grieving alone, and that others share our outrage at violent actions and violent rhetoric.

As the Denver community heals from this senseless tragedy, please know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of all Americans.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 134 to condemn in the strongest possible terms the heinous atrocities that occurred in Aurora, Colorado.

But future generations will condemn us if sole response to this massacre is the passage of this resolution.

As we watch the news from Colorado with horror and sympathy for the families, we should remember that each day more than 80 Americans are killed by gunfire, unnecessary tragedies. Arguments that gun safety legislation won't help the situation seem to me illogical or blindly ideological.

Earlier this week we held a moment of silence for the victims and their families. I hope Congress does not remain silent about the many things we can do to try to prevent such tragedies from occurring in the future. We must increase our attention to mental health

issues, we must support our local first responders with the tools and resources they need, and we must implement real and sensible gun control measures.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the unspeakable acts that were carried out in a movie theater in Aurora, Colorado, on July 20, 2012.

I offer condolences on behalf of myself and the people of Texas District 11 to the innocent men, women, and children and their families who were victims of this cowardly act.

While the pain and anguish continues, the people of Aurora should know they are not alone in this time of suffering. The hearts, thoughts, and prayers of the people of Texas are with them.

The Lord's words can provide comfort in times of tragedy. I am reminded of Psalms 34, which says, "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." It is my fervent prayer that the Lord will be a constant comfort to the victims and families and that he will hold them close to him as he begins to heal their wounds in body and spirit.

May the Lord bless them with comfort in the face of senseless tragedy and peace in the face of unanswerable questions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, July 25, 2012, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5872. An act to require the President to provide a report detailing the sequester required by the Budget Control Act of 2011 on January 2, 2013.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 285. An act for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke.

RED TAPE REDUCTION AND SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION ACT

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 741 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 741

Resolved, That during further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent, as amended, pursuant to House Resolution 783, the further amendment printed in section 2 of this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 2. The amendment referred to in the first section of this resolution is as follows: In section 102(b), strike "employment" and insert "unemployment".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 1 hour.

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be amended by the amendment I have placed at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That during further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent, as amended, pursuant to House Resolution 738, the further amendment printed in section 2 of this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 2. The amendment referred to in the first section of this resolution is as follows: In section 102(b), strike "employment" and insert "unemployment".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I think we should have an explanation here. The Clerk read the technical language; but as I understand it, what happened was that the bill that we were voting on yesterday and will vote on today has an error and gets "employment" and "unemployment" confused and that this is a bill that would correct the error in the bill that we debated yesterday.

So I wonder, why do we now need a unanimous consent? Are we correcting the correction? It's the old Latin phrase "Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?" which means, "Who guards the guardians?" I guess the question today is, Who corrects the correctors?

I would yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina if she would explain why we had to get a bill to make a correction and why we now have to have a unanimous consent to probably correct the correction. What is the error? I guess I should ask, What is the error of the day? We know what yesterday's error was. What's today's error?

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, if I might respond to the gentleman from Massachusetts, I appreciate his asking the question because it gives us an opportunity to do a mea culpa. That's my ability to quote Latin this morning in response to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Yes, there was a very minor error in the rule that was passed the day before yesterday, which was that two letters—the letter "U" and the letter "N"—were left off of one word.

□ 1000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Reclaiming my time to say, if that's the