

Newtown, having not acted over the years—after Columbine, the theater in Aurora, the horrific tragedy at Virginia Tech, and many, many others, including that of our colleague in Arizona.

So I am hoping that as we stand here today that the right consciences of those who have the opportunity in the other body to pass sensible gun legislation will do so. In order to aid them, to listen to the voices of the people, 50 Members of the United States House of Representatives have asked for those in the other body not to filibuster any gun legislation, but to have an up-or-down vote. The reason we say that is because of the massive numbers of loss of children, some 80 children who die every month by gunshot, the thousands of teenagers who pick up guns to resolve differences, and the million people who were killed by guns since the assassination of Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy.

This is a Nation that is gunned, but not safe. The tragedy that happened in my area just a few days ago with the slashing of students by another student at a community college. Just imagine—14 people were injured—if that person had had an assault weapon with multiple rounds, similar to the heinous acts that occurred in Newtown, when 155 rounds were shot in 5 minutes. So I'm hoping that this letter will move those Senators not to filibuster and to let us have an up-or-down vote.

I also rise today to encourage us to do the right thing and to vote “no” on the National Labor Relations Board legislation that wants to stop the President from his Presidential authority, and that is to make sure that the government runs by appointing people to the NLRB through recess appointments, among others, just like President George Bush did 140 times, to make recess appointments to be able to move the government forward. In contrast to the D.C. Court of Appeals decision that ruled that our President cannot, three other decisions and other court decisions said you can.

We need to vote “no” on this legislation. It is destructive, it is only to stall government, and it is only to stop the work of the NLRB, where workers and corporations come together to solve their problems.

What we should be doing is working to create jobs. That's what Americans want us to do. They want us to make it in America. They want us to build up manufacturing. They want us to create and pass legislation, as we introduced yesterday with whip HOYER, 38 pieces of legislation that we all are joining to support to create jobs.

One thing they don't want us to do is to pass anything with a chained CPI on Social Security because Social Security is solvent. Those people are not the fault of any deficit or any debt; they are hardworking people. I will not ever vote for a chained CPI. And I am not a whiner.

□ 1020

I, frankly, see those people in my district who are supported by Social Security and Medicare, which they earn because they work for it. They did not have it as a handout, because seniors are important and seniors believe in young people. We should protect our seniors; we should invest in education.

I salute the President for his early pre-K initiative, that every child should have the opportunity to be in a pre-K program, supporting our teachers. So here we are; this is what we should be doing. We should be promoting job creation to bring down unemployment and to, in fact, get those who are underemployed and those who have completely gone out of the marketplace. They can be hired, they have skills, including our disabled.

Then we should continue to invest in education, including higher education, making it easier for parents to get the Parent PLUS Loans to send their children to college and putting the burden on colleges to make sure that these young people finish college and not go in and get debt and, therefore, come out with a large debt and no degree.

This is what America is about, investing in young people, protecting our seniors, and realizing that the chained CPI is not the way to go on Social Security. It's to save it because they earned it.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DEBATE COACH WILLIAM “BILLY” TATE, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of William Woods Tate, Jr., a beloved educator and high school debate coach, who was an extraordinary mentor to me and so many others. Coach Billy Tate, as he was known, was an accomplished speech and debate coach in Alabama and Tennessee for over 40 years. Coach Tate, sadly, passed away suddenly on Saturday, April 6, 2013, at the age of 69, leaving behind a legacy defined by his commitment to developing the oratorical skills of future leaders.

At the time of his death, Coach Tate was a five-diamond debate coach at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, Tennessee, where he taught speech and coached winning debate teams for more than 30 years. He was an outstanding teacher and an inspirational leader in the National Forensic League, the oldest and largest honor society for high school students in speech and debate.

During his illustrious career, Coach Tate had multiple national finalists in policy debate and extemporaneous speaking. In 1999, his policy debate team reached the national finals, and in 2006 Coach Billy Tate made coaching history as two of his policy teams

closed out the national finals winning the first-ever NFL co-citizenship in policy debate.

He was an extraordinary individual. Not only did he teach his students so brilliantly. In his spare time, he loved bridge. He was a devoted son, who always saw to the care of his beloved mother in Selma. Coach Tate also managed to keep up with his debate students through the years and relished their life successes. He demanded excellence from his students, teaching them not only the importance of debate prep and strategy, but also took great pride in exposing his students to the very best restaurants, and that included important table etiquette that accompanied such an experience.

Although Coach Tate spent the bulk of his career at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, he began his speech and debate experience in 1975 at Selma High School in his beloved town of Selma, Alabama. I know that his students at Montgomery Bell Academy believe they had his best coaching years; but I am here to tell you from personal experience that the 1970s and 1980s at Selma High School honed his craft and greatly influenced his strategy. He produced some of the finest high school debaters the State of Alabama has ever seen to date, and I am proud to say that I was one of those students.

Billy Tate was my debate coach for 3 years at Selma High School. For a public high school in rural Alabama, we dominated the competition and won many State championships. For many years, the walls of Selma High School's library were lined with the hundreds of debate and speech trophies won by the teams coached by Billy Tate. Debate was more than an average extracurricular activity; it was a serious discipline. Those of us who had the privilege of being coached by him knew that it was a serious time commitment, a commitment of both time, money, and talent.

To be on Billy Tate's debate team, a student had to commit to attending summer debate camps and countless weekend travel to tournaments all across Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Georgia during the academic year. It was not the average debate class. I know that my life journey would not have been possible were it not for my debate experience under the tutelage of Coach Billy Tate at Selma High School.

I know that I speak on behalf of all the debaters at Selma High School and Montgomery Bell Academy in expressing our sincere gratitude for Coach Tate's guidance, his dedication, and unwavering belief in our abilities. I especially dedicate this tribute to the Selma High School debaters I had the privilege of competing with—Tom Bundenthal, Lawrence “Bubba” Wall, Derek Edwards, Max Andrews, John Polk, Leslie Looper, and Crystal Boykin, to name a few.

To say thank you to Coach Tate seems woefully inadequate, but I do

take comfort in knowing that his legacy will live on through those of us he influenced. May Coach Billy Tate always be remembered for the excellence he inspired in all of us.

Today, I ask my colleagues in the United States Congress to join with me and the hundreds of debaters he taught in his 40 years of coaching in celebrating the life and legacy of a native Alabamian and a nationally renowned debate coach, Mr. William Woods Tate, Jr.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE CARDINALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the University of Louisville Cardinals, who went to a second straight Final Four this season and returned home national champions.

Going into the NCAA tournament, the question was whether the Cards' stifling defense would be enough to win it all. Well, we'll never know, because the country's best defense became the best offense too, shooting 52 percent to a tournament best 79.5 points per game. That's more than crazy. It's "Russdicolous."

They said he never met a shot he didn't like; but during the past month, Russ Smith hardly took a shot he couldn't make, setting Louisville's new tournament-scoring record and earning the respect and affection of a city. The All-American, regional MVP, and defensive phenom no longer cares who's scoring, as long as the jersey reads Louisville.

When these guys say the team motto "Louisville First, Cards Forever," they mean it. We saw it when the team rallied around their injured teammate, Kevin Ware, as he courageously repeated, "I'm fine, just win the game," before being carted off the court during the Elite Eight. We saw it when they came together to "Win for Ware." But before that, the Cards won with Ware. On this team, Kevin was one of eight Cardinals to score double figures in a tournament game. That doesn't even include the players who set this team off on some of the year's most unlikely and electrifying rallies.

Walk-on Tim Henderson scored six of his season's 22 points in 45 seconds to cut a late 12-point Final Four deficit in half. All year, Stephen Van Treese snatched rebounds from future NBA big men, denied them in the paint, and set precision picks strong enough to stop a truck. And freshman Montrezl Harrell provided a constant spark off the bench, his unrelenting effort the only thing close to matching his natural ability.

Peyton Siva embodies the "Louisville First" spirit. Happier setting up his teammates than knocking it down himself, Peyton reminded the Nation he can also drop 18 points on the Play-

er of the Year in the championship game. Unselfish, but a thief, he'll graduate with the school record for steals in a season and career.

Big man Gorgui Deing is unselfish, too. Louisville's record-setting shot-blocker and monster rebounder used his jump shot to pull defenders and find teammates for six assists in the championship game—three to Chane Behanan, who tied Louisville's single-season dunk record, officially making him the latest doctor of dunk. Cutting down the nets in Atlanta was great, but they should give Chane the backboards because he owned them all night.

□ 1030

This team also showed tremendous perseverance. Wayne Blackshear overcame two shoulder injuries to reach the starting lineup. And it's a good thing: he hit threes to start the Cards' scoring in both championship halves.

But the Final Four's breakout star was its most outstanding player, Luke Hancock, who scored his career-high in the semifinal and then broke it 2 days later. Luke didn't use the force; he was a force. And nothing would stop him from winning for his father, for Kevin Ware and, as always, for Louisville.

That's what Coach Rick Pitino taught this team, the master motivator, who's done everything this week but cartwheels on the Moon, built a team and mentored men we should be proud of.

And like Pitino, Jeff Walz will tell you this isn't about one person or even one team. It's about a program and a community. Trust him. That mad scientist led U of L's women to four straight NCAA tournament upsets, including what is considered to be the biggest upset in college basketball history.

Behind the jaw-dropping plays of Shoni and Jude Shimmel, sharp-shooting of Antonita Slaughter, tenacity and skill of Sara Hammond, Sherrone Vails, and Bria Smith, and the unbelievable toughness of Monique Reid and Shelby Harper, the national runners-up crashed nearly every party around.

These players and coaches define an extraordinary program. Only three coaches in NCAA history have gone to a men's and women's basketball final in the same season. Louisville is the first to add a BCS Bowl victory to the mix.

But if you think it's the last, you don't know Athletics Director Tom Jurich. With sparkling new facilities, outstanding coaches, and stellar student athletes in competition and class, Tom has every U of L sport at the top of their game and climbing.

The university and the community have thrived along with them, continuing a proud tradition that began with Peck Hickman and rocketed to the top under the great Denny Crum.

I'm honored to congratulate the University of Louisville for its unparal-

leled winning streak, capped off by the Cards' third Men's Basketball National Championship. Go Cards.

THE AMERICAN JOBS MATTER ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about our most pressing issue facing my district and our country, and that is boosting American manufacturing and creating jobs here at home.

Just this week, I introduced a bill called the American Jobs Matter Act. This commonsense bill would enable the Federal Government to find out how contracted work would impact American jobs. Contractors would be able to include how their offers would create American jobs.

My bill would raise the importance of creating jobs at home in our country and building our manufacturing industry here as Federal contractors are considered for their jobs. It would also help ensure that taxpayer money is being used to create jobs in places like Rockford, Moline, Galesburg, and Peoria, and in cities and towns across my district, across my State, and across our country—not overseas.

I'm proud to say that this bill has been incorporated into Congressman HOYER's Make It In America plan, which seeks to promote American workers, jobs, innovation, and infrastructure.

Madam Speaker, we need to do more to create jobs and support American manufacturing. My bill does just that.

THE IMMINENT THREAT POSED BY NORTH KOREA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. GABBARD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GABBARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the recent developments and the growing instability on the Korean Peninsula.

Today we are seeing an increasingly belligerent hostile stance by the North Korean regime toward its perceived enemies. For some, this may sound like a far-off annoyance, saber rattling coming from the East; however, nothing could be farther from the truth for families in my home State of Hawaii and in Guam who sit as named threats by the increasingly aggressive and unpredictable regime led by Kim Jong Un.

He has demonstrated a pattern of belligerent threats and even unprovoked attacks on South Korea in recent years. This new leader has adopted many of the same destructive policies of the past in his pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile capabilities. He's revealed the willingness to sacrifice the safety and needs of the North Korean people in order to advance his hostile, unproductive agenda. Rather than caring for his people, Kim