

country have stopped hiring, and millions of Americans are beginning to see less take-home pay as a result of the Affordable Care Act's 30-hour workweek requirement.

That is the crux of the problem with the Affordable Care Act, Madam Speaker. The law's burdensome employer requirements dissuade businesses from expanding and encourage shifting current workers from full to part-time work.

Congress should be advancing policies to expand employment opportunities, especially during tough economic times, rather than undercutting the ability of Americans to earn more.

This is the reason that the House today passed H.R. 2575, the Save American Workers Act, legislation that will allow businesses the opportunity to expand workers' hours by redefining full-time employees under the Affordable Care Act and reverting back to the traditional 40-hour workweek definition.

The Save American Workers Act will lessen the burden being imposed on employers and help to increase wages so that Americans, especially those with limited means, can better provide for their families.

□ 1530

GLOBAL BATTLE AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the British Embassy for including me in an exchange program with scientists, policy leaders, and members of the British Parliament who are on the front lines of our global battle against Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's attacks our oldest population, stripping our grandparents of their memory and their dignity, and placing debilitating stress on devoted caretakers.

Forty-four million worldwide and 5 million right here in America are affected. In fact, an American develops Alzheimer's disease every 68 seconds, which means by the time I finish this speech someone in our country will have this heartbreaking disease.

Through the Affordable Care Act and the National Alzheimer's Project Act, Congress and President Obama have taken important steps to address this growing crisis. It is a moral and economic imperative that we continue to escalate our efforts.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEP RALLY SPEECH ON OBAMACARE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the head cheerleader in charge held a pep rally this week. Standing in front

of a boisterous pep squad of bureaucrats from HHS and Democrats who support ObamaCare, the President declared his mission accomplished.

However, not there and not invited were millions who had lost their plans and lost their doctors that the President promised that they could keep. Many citizens have seen their health insurance costs rise, their deductibles increase, and their coverage decrease, and they weren't there either.

One single mom in my district wrote me that she had to send her son off to live with her parents because she could no longer afford to support him due to the rise in her health care costs under ObamaCare. She wasn't there either.

But the President declared the debate over repealing ObamaCare is over. Not so fast, Mr. President. College pep rally campaigning in front of a hand-picked audience won't change the fact that ObamaCare is bad medicine for America.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WAGNER). The Chair would remind Members to direct their remarks to the Chair.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. REED. Madam 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 the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues that have joined me this evening to talk about an issue that is very personal to me and I think something that we need to discuss across America in an open and honest fashion.

Madam Speaker, this month, April, is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. I am joined with many of my colleagues here today to discuss the issue of sexual assault, domestic violence and, in particular, a national effort that we have become familiar with in our office and in my household called the NO MORE campaign. NO MORE is a group that is represented by numerous entities across the country that are coming together to say "no more" to sexual assault and domestic violence.

Madam Speaker, you may recall I came to this floor of this Chamber back on March 14 and I discussed the issue of NO MORE Week at that point in time. I shared my family's personal story that moved us in our household—my wife, my brother, my sister, my 11 older brothers and sisters—to say "no more."

Madam Speaker, over the last year and a half, we dealt with a situation where my niece was raped. I will tell you, going through that experience, it is time to say "no more."

I just am humbled to see the outpouring of support that my colleagues are showing me this evening and coming together to say we need to talk about sexual assault, we need to talk about domestic violence across the country. We can't be shameful, we can't hide any longer. We need to stand with the victims and say this isn't something that is just going to be brushed aside and there are going to be excuses of, well, she wanted it or they deserved it or they were drinking, and therefore it is okay. "No more," Madam Speaker, no more to sexual assault and domestic violence.

Earlier today, my colleague across the aisle, GWEN MOORE, and I introduced a resolution supporting the goals and ideas of April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. I am glad to see that we are coming together in this Chamber on a bipartisan basis to identify this issue, speak about this issue, and coming together to solve this critical problem for Americans across the Nation.

Also, I just wanted to say, from this personal experience as a husband, as a father of a beautiful girl who is 15, the uncle of my beautiful niece who went through this horrific situation, that we just can't express enough how horrific and tragic sexual assault is when it comes to families, young men and women, just men and women across the country, and I stand here today to say "no more."

With that, I yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), my good colleague, to speak on this important issue.

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for bringing highlight to an issue that we all feel a certain sadness that has to be highlighted. I am sorry for his personal tragedy for his niece, and I wish her much healing and a bright future for her.

I rise today to, too, speak, as he did, about April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

As we know, sexual assault can happen to anyone, regardless of gender, age, race, or religion, and it is always heartbreaking. Those are the ones that we actually hear about. Many go unreported. So we must say "no more," no more to sexual assault and the culture of silence and shame.

One in six women in this country have been sexually assaulted, most by someone they know. Hence, the area of deeply troubling behaviors in the realm of domestic violence.

College women have an even higher rate of sexual victimization than most women in the United States. Our colleges and universities can and must play an important role in stopping sexual assault and joining this campaign in April by saying "no more" to sexual

assault. This must be a priority in every college campus in America.

As a mother of a daughter and now a grandmother of a daughter and also two sons who were lucky enough to go to college, I want to make sure that when they are on those college campuses they are safe and that they know how to get help and that they know how to recognize the signals that they might be getting into trouble.

Many of those affected with sexual assault struggle with depression, drug and alcohol abuse, or even thoughts of suicide. We have to make sure that they know they are not to blame and that help is available.

So many people care. Local organizations, like the local Charleston YWCA, which runs the Resolve Family Abuse Program, with which I was an active board member for many years, they stand ready to help. They have counseling programs, they have residential programs, they have programs for batterers, programs to try to alleviate the scourge of domestic violence.

We in Congress have passed laws to provide Federal funding for programs and organizations to help women seeking help from domestic abuse, stalking, and sexual assault.

I will continue to work to help the men and women affected by these heinous crimes and am proud to stand here today and say “no more” to sexual assault.

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from West Virginia for her words and offer of support.

At this time, Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA), a good friend from the other side of the aisle, the cochair of the Victims’ Rights Caucus.

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, as a chairman of the Crime Victims Caucus, along with our good friend and colleague Congressman TED POE, our caucus wants to join in this effort to say “no more.” The Crime Victims Caucus is active in a host of different areas, and this is one that deserves our attention.

As we mark the National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we must remember that every day millions are struggling with the aftermath of sexual assault. We remember the survivors, and we honor the advocates who support them.

Awareness and action can help end the cycle of sexual assault and domestic violence. One in five women in this country, sadly, are raped over the course of their lifetime, and half of all women will experience some type of sexual assault. These are horrific, horrific numbers. These are our sisters, our mothers, and our wives.

We must act. Millions of victims are not receiving the assistance they need, and Congress must act. A national survey in 2013 showed that 75 percent of the rape crisis centers have lost funding, resulting in layoffs and reduced services and program closures when, in fact, we need 24/7 service for this very,

very important matter. Those numbers mean communities with shuttered emergency shelters that could have helped women and men find safe haven are no longer available. We must do better.

That is why, I along with many of my colleagues here today, are fighting to raise the cap on the Crime Victims Fund that is one of the top priorities of the Victims’ Rights Caucus. More than 80 Members of Congress signed our bipartisan legislation. Congressman TED POE and I carried a letter to the Appropriations Committee urging them to raise the cap to \$1.5 billion from its current level of \$745 million. This fund is oversubscribed.

The fact of the matter is this fund does not contain one ounce of taxpayer dollars. It is, in fact, ill-gotten gains by criminals of all kinds in which those ill-gotten gains are confiscated and placed in this restitution fund that President Reagan signed into law in 1981 with then a Democratic-controlled Congress. So we must raise these funds.

The Crime Victims Fund provides money for our domestic violence shelters that provide shelter for families and women and children who are victims of domestic violence. It funds rape crisis centers and child abuse treatment centers and programs.

We must fund the rape prevention and education fund that provides monies to our States in order to support this very important issue of rape prevention and education programs conducted by these rape crisis centers, sexual assault coalitions, and other nonprofit organizations that are attempting to educate to help to assist and to be there when these victims are violated by this most horrific crime.

Awareness, education, and empowerment, we all have a role to play in combating the sexual assault. That is why we are honoring those this month. Until we eliminate sexual assault and domestic violence and rape, we must continue to educate people on where to seek help when tragedy strikes. Survivors must know that they are not alone, and it is not their fault, and that there is help and that we care so that they can come out of the shadows and live a productive life.

In closing, it is our job and solemn promise here in Congress to guarantee that there is help for every victim in our country. “No more” to sexual assault.

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his kind words. What I will say is, it is awareness, education, and empowerment.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from Texas, Judge POE, a good friend and cochair of the Victims’ Rights Caucus.

□ 1545

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time, and I thank him for having this Special Order regarding the dastardly crime of sexual assault.

I also want to thank my friend Mr. COSTA from California for his work. We serve as cochairs on the Victims’ Rights Caucus, and it is a caucus that does exactly what it says. We promote and advocate on behalf of crime victims throughout in the country here legislatively.

Mr. COSTA, as some of you may know his history from California and he was the author of the Three Strikes, You’re Out law that many States now have adopted. It is good law, and I want to commend him for his work on the caucus and also his comments.

Madam Speaker, I spent all my career before I came to Congress at the criminal courts building in Houston, first as a prosecutor and then about 22 years as a criminal court judge. I heard about 25,000 cases as a judge. I heard a lot as a prosecutor. All of those cases dealt with people, not just the defendant, but the victims of crime as well.

I would like to talk about just one person. It happened a long time ago in a case I prosecuted. I am going to change the names to protect the privacy of the family of the victim. This young student went to one of our schools in Houston, Texas. She is working in the daytime, went to night school to get a second degree. She is driving home on one of our freeways at night. She had car trouble. She pulled over to a service station, looking for some help because all the lights had come on.

She gets out of the car and she talked to a person that she thought was a service station attendant. Billy Smith wasn’t a service station attendant. He was just hanging around. He pulls out a gun. He kidnaps Lucy and takes her to a remote place of our county. He did a lot of bad things to her, including beating her up and abandoning her, left her for dead. In fact, when he was later arrested by the Houston Police Department, he was mad that he hadn’t killed her.

A remarkable lady. She recovered those physical wounds. Her medical needs were met. The bad guy was caught. I prosecuted him in front of a jury of 12 right-thinking Americans in Houston, and he was convicted of sexual assault of Lucy and received the maximum sentence of 99 years in a Texas penitentiary.

We would hope, as a society, that all would be well, life would go on, and good things would happen. That is not reality. That is not the world we live in now or then. Because when you deal with a victim of a sexual assault, they are a special person. Everything about their identity, in many cases, has been destroyed. In fact, defendants, I think, try to destroy the soul of sexual assault victims.

Lucy testified at that trial, but her life fell apart. She dropped out of school. In fact, she never went on that campus again. She lost her job, her husband. The kind of guy he was, he divorced her and left her. She started using drugs, and she used drugs for a while.

Not too long after the trial was over with, I received a phone call from her mother telling me that Lucy had taken her life. And she left a note, and in that note she said: I am tired of running from Billy Smith in my nightmares. You see, she got the death penalty because she was a victim of crime, a real person. We would hope for the best. That is not reality.

So we, as a society, have to understand the plight of victims. When the crime is committed against them, it is not like a theft case. It is a personal crime. And some don't make it; they don't recover. And society needs to be there to help them, as Mr. COSTA says, to let them know they are not alone anymore, that we are on their side and we are going to do what we can to see that justice occurs in their case, because, Madam Speaker, justice is what we do in this country.

And that's just the way it is.

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the words. I am so pleased that this is a bipartisan Special Order, where Members from the other side of the aisle are joining us tonight to talk about the issue of sexual assault, domestic violence, and us saying "no more."

With that, I yield to my good friend from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I thank the gentleman from New York for organizing this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, today I join my colleagues in recognizing the importance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Sexual assault is far too prevalent in modern society. It is estimated one in five girls and one in twenty boys will be a victim of child sexual assault. Nearly a quarter of all women attending college will also become victims during their academic career.

This issue has been a key issue for the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, which I have the privilege to serve as ranking member. The subcommittee is not only focused on investigating and prosecuting offenders, it also looks to provide law enforcement with the necessary funding and resources and training to immediately help survivors beginning the healing process.

Just yesterday, the full Judiciary Committee reported a bill that will reauthorize the Debbie Smith Act. This will provide funding to reduce the DNA analysis backlog in our Nation's laboratories and speed up justice to victims of sexual assault.

Debbie Smith is a constituent of mine, and the horror she endured while waiting 6½ years for the DNA to be tested is beyond unacceptable. What is even more unacceptable is that during the time of delay, her attacker abducted and robbed two other women. If the DNA sample had been tested in a timely manner, it is almost certain that those two women would not have been victims of crime. The Debbie Smith Act helps ensure that we can

bring perpetrators to justice more quickly and helps survivors on the road to recovery.

Madam Speaker, during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we need to focus on actions that we can take to reduce the incidence of sexual assault. For example, we have a profound responsibility to the children within our foster care system, and unfortunately we have found that those in foster care have experienced sexual assault at a much greater rate than average. Ensuring safety is a responsibility that we have.

Studies show that nearly 70 percent of children who fall victim to child sexual trade are runaways from the foster care system. By the time they run away, they have already been molested or assaulted by either a family member or somebody in the foster care system.

When we find children that are victims of sex trafficking, we must ensure that these children are treated as victims, not as criminals. A child cannot consent to sex. Sex with a child is rape and needs to be prosecuted as such. I urge my colleagues and my counterparts in the States to implement safe harbor laws so that victims of child sex trafficking are not victimized again when they encounter the law enforcement officials.

When rescued, efforts to support these children must be improved. These survivors require multidisciplinary care and resources that recognize the distinct and severe physical and psychological harms inflicted on them.

The potential for victimization does not end at childhood. The rates of campus sexual assault far exceed the rates during any time of a young person's life. Most of the victims know their attackers. Colleges need to ensure the safety of those entrusted in their care. A recently established campus safety center can go a long way in setting up the protocols to both reduce sexual assault for those on campuses and to properly respond when the assaults occur.

Last year we reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act to ensure stronger protections for female victims of crime. Since its passage in 2000, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act has significantly increased prosecutions of adult and child sex traffickers.

We just recently, in the last few months, the new regulations under the Prison Rape Elimination Act has also gone a long way in reducing sexual assault in our prisons.

As I said before, prosecution of offenders is a critical part of the equation, but it is not the only part. We need to ensure that we prevent such assaults from occurring in the first place and ensure that survivors are provided with the resources they need and support that they need. Strategies will evolve over time, but during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, we need to encourage actions to eliminate sexual assault.

Again, I thank the gentleman from New York for his support for this awareness month and for organizing this Special Order.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from Virginia for joining us.

At this point in time, I would like to yield to a good friend of mine from the great State of North Carolina (Mrs. ELLMERS).

Mrs. ELLMERS. Madam Speaker, thank you to the gentleman. And I would like to say thank you for helping out with this Special Order, being here, holding this Special Order along with Mr. COSTA as part of the caucus in this bipartisan effort.

As you know and as we need to talk about with the American people, this is an issue that defies logic and it defies socioeconomic background. There are no barriers to sexual assault, human trafficking, violence, domestic violence.

I will say, I recently met a young lady who was the victim of human trafficking, not with sexual assault, but with labor, essentially. She was brought here to this country at the age of 3, and she was beaten every day by the woman that put herself forward as her mother, along with the two other young ladies that were brought here that she knew as her sisters. And until, I would say, 2007, she said every day that is what they endured, beatings by this woman that they referred to as Mom.

The reason that the woman said that they can't speak out and seek help was because they were brought here illegally and they were illegal. So, you see, this problem is pervasive and it is one we have to deal with, and we are doing exactly what needs to be done.

To my good friend from New York, thank you again for holding this, because we have to show the American people this is an issue we care about, this is an issue that we need to solve, and we need to work together for that effort. April being Sexual Assault Awareness Month is a perfect time for us to take part in this effort.

I was very distressed to find out recently that the county that I live in in North Carolina, Harnett County, as of 2013, is the fifth highest county level of domestic-related homicide. That is not a number that I want to associate myself with in the very county in which I live.

This month serves as an opportunity for all of us to unite on this issue, both Democrat, Republican, every American, to speak candidly about the prevalence of abuse and generate a much-needed change in our culture. Whether we are talking about our society, whether we are talking about those that are in the military, whether we are talking about those who come to this country for different purposes, we need to be a voice for all of those individuals.

Sexual assault is a persistent problem. It affects both women and men and, again, as I pointed out, regardless

of socioeconomic status. To bring an end to this problem, we must equip young people with the knowledge and the resources needed to feel empowered, ask questions, and seek support. Sexual Assault Awareness Month is about education and informing one another so that we can bring about an end.

It is time to speak up and raise awareness, and I hope all that are listening will help in this effort to support this effort.

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from North Carolina for coming today. I am pleased to yield to a good friend from the other side of the aisle to talk about this important issue of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the NO MORE campaign. I can't encourage people enough across America to go online, become aware of the NO MORE campaign, and the Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

With that, I yield to my good friend from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL).

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am very honored to be here in a bipartisan manner to talk about a subject that we can all agree on, which is that freedom from sexual assault is a basic human right. It is not to be tolerated in any corner of society. And the issue is not talked about enough, so I am glad we are bringing it up today.

I want to focus today on sexual assault that is taking place at an alarming rate in a place that we would not expect, and that is it in our military.

□ 1600

The reports of sexual assault in the military are mind-boggling. The Defense Department estimated that there were 26,000 sexual assaults in 2012. Those numbers are shocking, but this isn't just about statistics. It is about real people.

I want to share a story about one of my constituents. Elisha Morrow joined the Coast Guard at age 22. She started boot camp with so much pride and hope. She joined the Coast Guard because she believed deeply in their mission to save lives, which they do every day.

Her hope turned to humiliation and sorrow as her company commander sexually harassed her with innuendos and advancements night after night. The commander became even more emboldened and eventually raped the female recruit.

Shockingly, the commander was convicted of lesser charges of cruelty and maltreatment and adultery and not rape because the victim could not prove that her life wasn't under physical threat and that she didn't fear for her life. She had committed to his sexual advances under command.

The law did not take into account situations in which a superior abuses his or her position to take advantage of victims. That is not full justice. That is why the victim felt even more humiliated.

As a mother of a marine war veteran, when I heard this story, I knew I had to

do something about it, and I want to thank my colleagues because we joined together when we passed the National Defense Authorization Act to direct the military to examine the need for a new definition of rape and sexual assault in cases when someone abuses their position in command.

No military recruit or servicemember should endure sexual abuse. Our sons and daughters put on the uniform to protect us, and now, we must protect them.

So we have made some good progress, Madam Speaker, which I am proud of, but there is so much more to do. We have to be vigilant.

There still remains a debate, even within our Congress, whether to remove these type of cases from the chain of command. We have to be vigilant and make sure our laws are working and make sure our sons and daughters are protected and get the full support they need to heal when they are assaulted.

In this country, every citizen has the right to be safe and protected. There should be no exceptions.

Mr. REED, I want to thank you again for allowing me to share this moment with you.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentlelady for coming tonight and joining us and raising awareness on this critical issue facing men and women across the country. I appreciate the gentlelady's words.

From the gentlelady's words, I am reminded how pervasive this is across our country. It does remind me also why we have to remain diligent and continue to raise awareness and educate people on these issues and to empower victims and stand with victims such as my niece.

With that, I yield to my good friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN).

Mr. MEEHAN. Allow me to express my appreciation to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED) for your leadership in putting together this very important opportunity for us to talk to not just our colleagues, but citizens all across this country, as we jointly focus on this issue of sexual assault and domestic violence.

I am moved by my colleagues who are telling stories from so many different perspectives. Many of them are personal. I think that is really the way we have to explain these kinds of circumstances, through the personal stories in which it is driven home, because you can understand how it affects real people on an everyday basis.

I was a former prosecutor before I came here to Washington, D.C., and while this story is about 20 years old, it defines a particular problem at a particular point in time.

I remember distinctly engaging with a young woman. She had been the victim of a sexual assault. She met a young man at a party. She returned to a dorm room, believing that everything was going to be safe. He sexually and violently violated her.

This was a very prestigious school in New England. She reported it later that week to the school authorities, but they took a position that, since she really hadn't reported it immediately and she didn't have any other kind of particular evidence, it was her word against his word, and they took no further action.

This young woman was completely abandoned on this campus, but worse yet, her perpetrator used that opportunity thereafter to jeer at her and to taunt her, and not only was she the one who was violated, but she was the one who was finally driven to a point where she was so uncomfortable, having to confront this guy each and every day, she is the one who had to leave her college. She had to go home and start to heal and try to start a life all over again and a whole new experience.

I ran into her because, 2 years later, she came to my district in Pennsylvania. She came there as a witness because, only weeks before she had arrived, there was another party on a college campus nearby me and this same perpetrator happened to come to that college, visiting a friend, where he met a woman. He went back to that woman's dorm, and another woman was violently raped.

Fortunately, this victim, for the first time, was able to testify against him. We used pattern evidence to give her her first chance to hold him accountable. Based on that rape that we were able to prosecute, I think he may still be in jail.

But her life didn't get put together immediately by virtue of that. In fact, she represents a story that is too infrequently understood, as has been demonstrated by some of my colleagues.

One in five women on college campuses today will report being victims of an attempted or actual sexual assault, yet only about 5 percent of those are being reported to law enforcement, so we have got this huge disconnect.

While it is 20 years after the incident that I experienced and a great deal more work has been done on college campuses, many of which have taken prudent steps to deal with this issue, we have to do a lot of more.

I am encouraged. Just recently, President Obama—and this demonstrates the bipartisan nature of this effort—has appointed a White House task force to protect students from sexual assault. I am pleased to be able to be participating with some local folks in my community to help advise that committee.

We are using the experiences that we have from experts at local colleges like Drexel, Villanova, and Penn State and campus experts who have worked in this area on the campuses. We are seeing some issues that need to be addressed.

We are looking at issues like reporting procedures that require victims of sexual assault, once they report the story, to sometimes have to retell it two and three different times, in order

for them to fulfill the requirements of reporting either at colleges, rape crisis centers, or with law enforcement. We are violating these victims again and again with procedures like that.

We are seeing women who are subjecting themselves to rape kits. It is appropriate and may be necessary for the collection of evidence, but we are finding, a year later, they haven't even taken the time to process the rape kit.

How many years do we have to continue to deal with dramatic backlogs in just the identification of straightforward evidence that would help us put some of these perpetrators in jail, where they belong?

We are examining the convoluted patchwork of Federal rules and regulations that, while well-intentioned, often work at cross-purposes. We are trying to strengthen the way partnerships can be generated between victims' services groups, college representatives, and among law enforcement.

The biggest challenge we face from the victims is the confusion about the process. They don't know who to turn to or who to report to. That is why we must continue to work together as colleagues to help clarify the rules and regulations that we are creating to send the kinds of signals so there is certainty and the ability of these victims to reach out for help.

I thank you, Mr. REED, for your leadership on this. I pledge my intention to continue to work with you and our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to assure that we are making not only good, sound law, but making the procedures work for the benefit of the victims.

Mr. REED. I so appreciate the work, leadership, and experience of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) on this issue. I don't think I could have said it any better in the sense of the victims being victimized repeatedly not just by the perpetrator, but by the system.

Hearing the gentleman from Pennsylvania give a firsthand account as to what that means, I think, is very important as we deal with the NO MORE campaign and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

At this time, Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield to a new Member, but a great Member of this great Chamber, Mrs. BROOKS from Indiana.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise today to say "no more."

I want to thank my dear colleague, Representative REED from New York, for bringing the attention of this body and to the country to this campaign of no more to sexual violence. It is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and we need to take this opportunity to speak harsh but true words.

Every 2 minutes, which is about how long my remarks are going to be, another American is sexually assaulted. That is 237,868 victims a year. This is a crime that touches people of all backgrounds and all walks of life.

Madam Speaker, we have a sexual assault crisis in this country. It is time to do something about it. It is time to say "no more."

Perhaps nowhere is the pain and suffering caused by this crisis more apparent than on our great college campuses. Nineteen percent of women on campus—almost one in five—will be the victim of an attempted or a completed sexual assault during their college experience.

Madam Speaker, we have a sexual assault crisis on our college campuses. It is time to do something about it. It is time we say "no more."

As a mom who has sent two kids off to college in recent years, these numbers scare me. I know the truth of these numbers, having counseled one of my daughter's friends in college about 4 years ago and having recently counseled the mother of another person who had been assaulted on a college campus.

This makes me angry. There is no excuse in this country for this problem. There is no valid reason for anyone to look in the other direction or to pretend this problem doesn't exist. Let's once and for all say "no more" to this problem.

We have to work together. I am very pleased that the Democrats and the Republicans in this body are working together.

We have to offer victims more support. We have to bring offenders to justice. We have to analyze these daunting statistics and find real solutions.

Eighty-four percent of women who experience sexually coercive behavior while in college are victimized during their first four semesters on campus. Forty-three percent of sexual victimization incidents on campuses do involve alcohol by the victim and about 69 percent by the perpetrator.

Let's have a real conversation with our freshmen and with our young people in college about those risky decisions that they make.

More than half of the raped college women tell no one about the horrendous crime that can change their lives forever. We have to support the organizations, coalitions, and families that are helping these women—and yes, some men—and empower them to come forward and seek justice. That is only a part of the healing process, but it is a critical part.

No one should get away with sexual assault. We have to say "no more" to free passes. We have the greatest university system in the world. We educate the best and the brightest. We graduate 21st century innovators with the talent and the dedication necessary to make our Nation and world a better place.

Surely, this is a sad challenge that we can work together on to address. This is an opportunity for us to say "no more" and mean it. Let's take this opportunity. We have a sexual assault crisis on our college campuses, but it is

also in our Nation, so let's do something.

I want to thank my colleague from New York for leading. Let's say "no more."

□ 1615

Mr. REED. I thank the gentlelady for her comments and joining us in this effort to say "no more." The gentlelady's comments about the use of alcohol and other intoxicants being a part of, sometimes, these situations, I can't express enough how many times I hear that story and how we need to make sure that we are talking to our kids, we are talking to folks as they are going off to college or in our high schools about the danger associated with the use of alcohol and being put into this situation.

Just be honest, just be honest and just say with that decision comes risk, and with those risks are often horrific events such as what we are talking about tonight, young men and women being sexually assaulted, domestically abused by partners, people that they know. It is time we raise this in a way that we speak openly and honestly about this issue.

Madam Speaker, I am so pleased to be joined by a new Member of the House, my good friend from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS), and I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you to my great colleague from the great State of New York.

It is humbling for me to stand here with you and the others who have spoken before me, those of you who have a family member who has experienced such a traumatic, traumatic event.

I have been here with prosecutors who have convicted those criminals who deserve to go to jail and to stand here with somebody like Mrs. BROOKS, who worked in the college arena and saw devastation, now, for me to come up here, I have got to tell you, I am here as a dad. I am here as a father to a 17-year-old daughter who, in a year and a half, will go to college.

In my district in central Illinois, we have nine universities and colleges, over 45,000 female students. With the CDC estimating that 19 percent of women have experienced sexual assault since entering college, let me do the math for you. That is 8,500 women in my district that, if the statistics remain true, will experience sexual assault.

I represent a district of 14 counties. This is unacceptable. That is why I rise with you, Mr. REED, to say "no more" today.

I am alarmed by the fact that my daughter is going to go off to school, get in her car, and my wife and I are going to be very, very sad when we drop her off at school. And I hope and pray that these statistics don't come right to my mind, but, you know, as a dad, they will. We have to do something in this institution about it.

I am proud to be a part of the Victims' Rights Caucus with you and Mr.

COSTA and my other colleagues, and I am committed to being a champion for the rights of victims.

There are numerous events. I want to remind people, it is not enough to stand and be silent. It is not enough to recognize we have a problem. Go participate in your local events that are going to be happening in your communities throughout the month of April—as we know, it is Sexual Assault Awareness Month—including tomorrow's Paint the Town Teal, where hundreds of people will wear this color to raise awareness and support survivors of sexual assault. I encourage everyone to get involved in these local events.

I want to make sure that everyone here knows, this is an issue that I and my colleagues will not forget about after the month of April. I look forward to the day when sexual assault is no longer a chronic problem that deserves national attention. However, until that day, the responsibility is on all of us to do what we can to stop sexual assault in this country and to say “no more.”

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from Illinois for those very good and eloquent remarks on this important issue of “no more.”

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to be joined by a Member from the great State of Indiana (Mrs. WALORSKI), and I yield to her.

Mrs. WALORSKI. I thank the gentleman from New York for organizing tonight's discussion on this important topic.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and I rise today to say “no more” to sexual assault. This tragic epidemic impacts every community. Most of us know at least one sexual assault survivor.

In my area, a report released by Saint Mary's College, found an alarming number of Hoosier girls affected by acts of sexual violence. Indiana ranks second out of 46 States for the highest number of rapes among female high school students, and this is unacceptable. 14.5 percent of Indiana's female high school students and 5.2 percent of Indiana's male high school students have reported being raped. This shocking number only accounts for those attacks that are reported. As we all know, most assaults go unreported.

Since joining Congress, I have worked to put an end to sexual violence. Working with the House Armed Services and the House Veterans' Affairs Committees, I have authored and supported a number of provisions aimed at combating the growing number and the epidemic of military sexual assault trauma.

Today I call on my colleagues to raise awareness of about sexual assault and how we can all work together to prevent it, to respond to it, and to say “no” to sexual assault together.

I thank the gentleman from New York for this opportunity to join you in saying “no more” to sexual assault.

Mr. REED. I can't agree any more with my colleague from Indiana. “No

more.” It is time. No more excuses. No more across America.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to be joined by a great friend from our State of New York (Mr. GIBSON), one of the leaders down here in the House, and I yield to him.

Mr. GIBSON. I thank my friend and neighbor from New York.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to be here today with my colleagues as we jointly pursue the effort to prevent sexual assault. I think this is something that really goes to the core of who we are as a people.

I am reminded at this moment of some of our ideas at the very founding, inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These inalienable rights come from God, but governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed to secure these rights.

We have taken action here in this Chamber. We have worked together to do that. The Violence Against Women Act we passed a little over a year ago, and then the budget agreement that we enacted at the end of last year increased by \$10 million. Certainly we need to do more than that, but we are taking some action.

I want to highlight how that can make a difference right at the local level. These resources go towards education for law enforcement professionals and for conduit with the judicial system. It is also for shelters and for supporting infrastructure and health care networks.

I am reminded of one of the visits my wife and I made recently to the Washbourne House in Kingston. That is the largest city in my district, the 19th district in New York, where I met with Michael Berg, who heads the Family of Woodstock shelters, and Cathy Moriarty, who actually runs the Washbourne House.

Madam Speaker, this is really hard work. These victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, when they first show up at the doorstep of the Washbourne House, security, the most basic of human needs, that is their biggest concern, and for these leaders, providing that security and helping the family to be able to trust again; then, for basic needs, some of these victims come with children, and providing for them to get back into a sense of normalcy, to get them back into school, all the while, to help our victims to get back up on their feet and to be self-reliant going forward, these resources are just critical to support these programs.

I am very proud of the work that is done there. I think it is illustrative of the kind of work that is done by very special people in our country all across our land. But there is more to be done, and there is an opportunity for us to do more. I am talking about, now, H.R. 3571. This is the International Violence Against Women Act, and this provides resources to help coordinate USAID and Department of State efforts about

our funding programs to make them more effective as we work with our friends and allies across the world.

I will tell you, this will not only help, I think, prevent sexual assault and bring more security, but it will also make us a stronger country. It will make us a stronger country, and it will bring us truer and in line with our founding principles. I argue that when we do that, on our best day, other countries want to be like us; and in that regard, it actually makes us safer as well.

So I just want to thank the organizations that work with us on this effort. I am talking about a number of organizations, but I would like to point out Amnesty International, CARE USA, and Futures Against Violence. I thank them for their leadership on this issue.

I thank everyone for being here today, and I thank my friend from New York.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from New York for joining us tonight, and I appreciate the friendship and the support for the NO MORE campaign tonight.

Madam Speaker, one of my best friends here in this great Chamber, my fellow member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) is joining us this evening, and I yield to her.

Mrs. BLACK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to stand here with my good friend from New York and to say “no more” to sexual assault. This April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and I commend Mr. REED for leading this effort to raise awareness and bring attention to this crucial issue.

Every 2 minutes, an American is assaulted in this country, and one in five women is a survivor of rape. This is sad and deplorable, and we must do more to share the daunting facts about sexual assault in this country as well as let people know where they can go to get help.

We must act to protect our Nation's women, but it goes further than this. You see, in this country, one in six men have been victims of sexual abuse before they reach the age of 18. This kind of child abuse must be brought to light, and perpetrators must be severely punished.

During my time of working in the Tennessee State Legislature, I was proud to support numerous measures to help protect women and children—and, in particular, children—from sexual assault. I sponsored legislation strengthening the penalties for the crime of rape of a child.

But in order to root out perpetrators of sexual violence, victims need to know where they can turn. I am grateful for the work of nomore.org for raising the awareness on this issue and for offering resources where victims can get the help that they so greatly need.

These heinous crimes are unacceptable, and it is why it is so important to say “no more” this Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

I thank my friend for bringing this issue to the floor tonight. It is so important.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentlelady for her remarks and comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Washington State (Mr. REICHERT), our great sheriff and co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus.

Mr. REICHERT. Thank you, Mr. REED, for inviting me to speak this evening on this important topic.

I don't come here tonight with statistics. I come here with 33 years of experience in law enforcement. I was a cop for a long time before I came to Congress. I have been to the homes. I have seen the faces of the mothers and the fathers. I have seen the faces of the victims of sexual assault. I have held them in my arms while they cried and fell to the floor in a puddle of tears. These are real people. These are our children.

When I was on patrol back in the early seventies, I had a case where I was driving around all night. It was 2 in the morning. I found this young man wandering the streets. I pulled up and asked him what was wrong. He was sobbing and crying and asking for help. It took him at least an hour, Madam Speaker—an hour—before he could really finally tell me what happened to him. He had been abducted and taken to a remote home and raped and assaulted, humiliated and beaten for 2 days.

Imagine being in that position. Imagine being a victim of such a horrendous crime.

My own family has been touched by this, as I know some folks may be listening and some speaking tonight may have mentioned that. One of my own family members was raped.

But I know this from a deeper experience. When I was a homicide detective for the King County Sheriff's Office in the early eighties, I was assigned a case called the Green River serial murder case, where 50-plus women were killed.

Now, how did those young girls and women get on the streets? They were abused. They were sexually assaulted at home. They were physically assaulted. They were emotionally assaulted, and they left home. They were raped at home. They were raped by their neighbors. They were raped by their family members, and they ended up on the street.

□ 1630

And whose arms did they fall into, Madam Speaker, but the arms of a pimp, again to be victimized and raped over and over and over, sometimes for money, sometimes not. Lives destroyed. Some survived physically but were mentally and emotionally drained. Their lives and spirit ripped from their hearts.

This is a crime that until you see, until you look into the eyes of the person who has been victimized in such a horrendous way, you never really truly

understand the pain and the suffering that they have been through.

If they survive, they have a long, long road of recovery. And we call these people survivors. We call them survivors. If they don't, like in the Green River case, they die; their lives are taken.

Madam Speaker, we cannot allow this to continue in this country. I know that every day, there is a cop on the street, there is a social worker out there that is dealing with this crime. We have got to stop this. We have got to save the lives of our children.

Thank you, Mr. REED for holding this hour tonight. Thank you for the opportunity to share some of my story.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentleman from Washington State, the sheriff, for the words and the experience and sharing tonight in our efforts to say "no more" to sexual assault.

Madam Speaker, I know we are coming to the end of the Special Order this evening. So I will just close with a few words.

Madam Speaker, I stand in this Chamber today joined by my niece, who is with us this evening. I can't tell you how impressed, how proud I am of that young lady who has now turned one of the most negative experiences, horrific experiences in her life and is doing something positive about it.

It is her voice that has moved me to stand with my colleagues, to work across the country, to work with organizations like NO MORE and Sexual Assault Awareness Month to say, I am going to do my part, Madam Speaker. I am going to do my part to make sure that we scream from the mountains, across this land, that sexual assault—be it man, woman, child, adult—we have heard the stories all night tonight. But in the great land of the United States of America, we are going to say "no more" because it tears lives apart.

Victims are not only victimized by the perpetrators who do these horrific acts, but they are revictimized over and over again. And it is time we, as a Nation, come together and say, you know what, we are going to stand with the victims. We are going to educate and make people aware of this issue so that we can empower people—our law enforcement agencies, our prosecutors, the people that do God's work and tending to the people when they need the services that rape victims and sexual assault and domestic violence victims need and turn to in their time of need.

So we are going to continue this battle. We are going to continue this fight. And I just have to applaud the efforts of the men and women across the country that are coming together to say in one voice, "no more."

All 300-plus million people in America need to come together to highlight this issue. And I can tell you, if we unite as a Nation, we can bring to an end sexual assault and domestic violence.

And to my niece, I just say, I will always have your back. I will always stand with you shoulder to shoulder. And to anyone who wants to say she deserved it or she wanted it or that she was drinking and it was the alcohol that caused it, "no more." She is not the person that is responsible for this. As I said on March 14, when I asked her what I should tell the American Nation on her behalf, say "no more" because there are no excuses.

I appreciate my colleagues, my friends and the folks from the other side of the aisle coming together tonight to talk about this, which is such an important issue that we need to talk about and to, for once and for all, say "no more."

I ask every American, have a conversation with your daughter, your spouse, your son, your mother, your father, your aunt, your uncle. Speak about this issue. Empower each of us, as individuals, to say, we are not going to accept this in our midst any longer. I am confident, Madam Speaker, if we do that, that we won't have to say in the last 60 minutes that we have joined here together, that 30 more of our fellow American citizens have just suffered from one of the most horrific crimes on the face of the Earth, and that is sexual assault.

It is time to say "no more," and I ask everyone to join us in that campaign.

I yield back the balance of my time.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1874, PRO-GROWTH BUDGETING ACT OF 2013; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1871, BASELINE REFORM ACT OF 2013; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1872, BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-400) on the resolution (H. Res. 539) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1874) to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for macroeconomic analysis of the impact of legislation, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1871) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to reform the budget baseline, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1872) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to increase transparency in Federal budgeting, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.