

Mr. Speaker, you heard the devastating stories tonight about what the American people are faced with. I have had over the past several weeks numerous conversations with people involved in this legislation, people involved in the agencies, people involved in committees. And to put it quite bluntly, FEMA's methodology is extremely, extremely flawed.

And I asked—I knew the answer to this, but I wanted to hear it from people with whom I spoke—So how many people is this affecting? Well, it is only affecting not quite 3 million people in the United States.

□ 1815

And I said, What do you mean, “only?” Well, we have indications that FEMA knew that there would be a small percentage, a small number of people who would get hit with extremely large bills. And I asked on the telephone when I was talking to several of these people, Are you one of the less than 3 million people? And there was dead silence. I said, Well, you have answered the question. You are not. So obviously this is just being taken for granted.

We have two places to go here. Do we want to create a myriad of ghost towns across this country or do we want to continue to improve cities and towns? I think the latter. I think we need to improve the quality of life for American people. We work, Congress works for the American people. I work for the people of the 10th Congressional District, and we have a responsibility here. We bail out the banks and we bail out the auto industry. And do you know something? My people in the 10th Congressional District—and I'm sure across this country—they do not want to be bailed out. They just want a level playing field.

So, in conclusion, I believe that we need to bring all the available options to the table for a bipartisan solution to the flood insurance rate increase. The colleagues that joined me this evening show how important it is to a wide range of districts throughout the country. We have to continue to be diligent in our work to assist these constituents, and I look forward to participating, along with my colleagues on the Committee on Financial Services, on crafting a solution.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, this is a nationwide problem. And I keep reiterating that many of the people in my district have a combined income of \$40,000 a year before taxes. They simply cannot afford \$10,000 and \$15,000 bills of which they had no anticipation it was coming.

I promise, and as my colleagues, I'm speaking for them, we will do everything in our power to make this right and to make this fair and to put our constituents on a level playing field.

THE CLASS OF 2006 FONDLY PAYS TRIBUTE TO GABBY GIFFORDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the colleagues that have joined me today for our 30-minute Special Order, and this is a special Special Order.

This Special Order is particularly relevant because this is the third anniversary of the shooting in Tucson that took six lives and injured 13 people, including our colleague, Gabby Giffords. And when I say “our colleague,” it is our colleague of all of us here in the House of Representatives, but as a member of the class of '06 of which Representative Giffords is, we take special significance in this day because she was one of our prized Members. We all loved her, and we all miss her.

The class of '06 is a close class, and we are joined here by one of the presidents of the class of '06, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. PERLMUTTER, an active member of the class of '06, and there will be other members here, as well.

We want to express our remembrances of Gabby, and particularly the article that she wrote that is in today's New York Times, an op-ed called “The Lessons of Physical Therapy.” It is a very touching article that talks about her recovery and her indomitable spirit where she tells about her exercises every day to get back her strength and to be able to recover speech and physical mobility. Today, in fact, she skydived.

She is a great spirit who has not let the problems that she has experienced limit her in any ways more than they have, and she is trying to overcome these obstacles and teach people that they can overcome obstacles. She left the House after serving 5 years as a great colleague and coming back here on August the 1 of 2011 in what was a very memorable moment on this floor to vote on the debt ceiling, which was a close vote, and came back in case her vote was needed. And on that day, I was out at the airport greeting a very close person in my life and coincidentally was there when she came off the airplane. I saw Gabby and was able to see her for the first time since the January 8 incident.

Then she was on the floor and of course we all got to see her. But she came back and made that effort, and she thought about how can she contribute more. And after Newtown, she knew that she could contribute more by starting an organization with her great husband, Captain Mark Kelly, Responsible Solutions, on firearms and gun laws. She tried to really lead the effort and to make America's laws more sensible, to save other people from the tragedy that she experienced as did the six victims that day that died and the others that were injured, including Congressman BARBER, who led us in a moment of silence earlier today on the floor with the members of the Arizona delegation.

So we wanted to remember that day which is significant. It is a significant

day in congressional history and American history because that was an assault on Congresspeople meeting with their constituents, open government, democratic form of government and meeting and listening. Gabby was engaging in a Congress neighborhood meeting at the grocery there, which our ED PERLMUTTER did a lot of those. I remember him talking about them in the Caucus.

I first would like to yield at this moment to the president of our class. Mr. Hodes isn't with us, but the others, the surviving member of our class, Mr. YARMUTH, from Louisville, Kentucky.

Mr. YARMUTH. I thank the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very, very meaningful day. Like so many other things in our lives, there are certain times, certain events that you always recall where you were when they occurred. And I remember very well that Saturday when I was at lunch with a group of friends and received word that Gabby had been shot. I remember later in the day not too long after that when the reports were actually that she had passed away. I remember the feelings I had then.

Fortunately, she did survive, but the emotions of that day live with me, and, unfortunately, they are reinforced too many times. They have been reinforced at Newtown and in Aurora. And even before the Gabby Giffords shooting in Tucson, they were reinforced in my community of Louisville, Kentucky, where a disgruntled employee shot, with an assault weapon, a number of coworkers in the Standard Gravure printing plant that prints the Courier-Journal. I remember also a mass shooting at Heath High School in Paducah, Kentucky, one of the first school shootings.

Unfortunately, the list continues to grow. Many of these inexplicable shootings are committed with weapons that are designed only to inflict massive casualties. And after Newtown, I spoke out the next day in saying actually that I was sorry that I had not spoken out on a regular basis, that I vowed at that point, as Gabby has vowed every day of her life over the last 3 years, to make it a mission to try and create saner gun laws in this country. Even in my State of Kentucky, with a very, very long and significant gun culture, vast majorities of our citizens believe that we ought to have universal background checks, and yet we have not been able to make any ground in that effort.

I think most people realize that in that Gabrielle Giffords shooting that Jared Loughner, the perpetrator, was actually wrestled to the ground when he had stopped to reload because he did not have a 30-capacity magazine. He had a lesser capacity magazine. And yet we can't deal with, again, these weapons and magazines made to inflict damage on many, many people.

I can't help but think that a lot of the frustration with Congress, with

this government, throughout the country is not a function of our inability or unwillingness to work the will of the American people. As we remember now this tragedy of 3 years ago and also remember the incredible work of Gabby Giffords over these last 3 years in trying to create a saner approach to guns in this country, it is important that we recognize that we do have an obligation to respond to what the American people want us to do. And if we would take simple steps, sane steps and logical steps, like requiring everyone who purchases a weapon in this country to undergo a background check, then maybe our approval rating, maybe the confidence and the credibility of government will improve slightly.

So it is an honor to stand here on the floor and to pay tribute to a friend, a colleague, and a great American who continues to fight for her country and our citizens and to urge all of us to think about what she has stood for over the last 3 years and rededicate our efforts to improving the lives of and the security of the American people.

Mr. COHEN. Thank you, Mr. YARMUTH.

Mr. PERLMUTTER, a member of our class, represents a district that has seen so much tragedy from firearms. I know he has been a leader on this effort in Colorado and in the country, and I appreciate him being here as one of the strong members of our class on this issue and other issues. I yield to Mr. PERLMUTTER.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Well, I thank my friend from Tennessee and my friend from Kentucky. Three years ago today, one of our best friends here, Gabby Giffords, was shot, shot at close range, shot when she was doing her job, Congress on the Corner. She was out in front of a Safeway in Tucson, Arizona, meeting with constituents.

Our job as Members of Congress is to be the voice of our district, to listen to what the people in our districts have to say about a million different subjects and be their voice here in Washington, D.C. She was just that. She was the voice of that district. And she worked hard, she represented them, and she was enthusiastic and energetic and a voice of reason here in Washington, D.C., and she was shot.

But that hasn't stopped her. This woman has such energy, such discipline and such perseverance that she just keeps going. She is dealing with a subject that is very tough to address in the United States of America. On the one hand, we have the Second Amendment, and law-abiding citizens have rights under the Second Amendment to possess weapons. On the other hand, people have the right not to be shot. And she is trying, as part of her work these days, to make sure that people who are criminals, who are domestic abusers, who may have mental health issues aren't in possession of weapons that can hurt people. And as the gentleman from Tennessee said, in my area we have had shootings at Col-

umbine High School and at the Aurora movie theater. Seventy people a year and a half ago, July of 2012, were shot. And in Colorado we have addressed it, but not without some real resistance by some communities.

What we want to make sure here in this country is that people who are law-abiding citizens can have their weapons, but they should undergo a background check to make sure that they are not domestic abusers or criminals or stalkers. We need to make sure of those kinds of things. And Gabby is working hard to make sure that that happens after—she is doing that on top of her rehabilitation. Her work ethic is second to none in doing this.

There is a lot of work to be done to try to minimize gun violence, and there is a lot of work that she is doing to recover. And this woman was doing both of those things when she nearly died from a shot at close quarters. She is tough. She is an American through and through, and she never says die. She is going to continue to work and work for the betterment of her community and of this Nation.

I'm glad that I got a chance to say something, Mr. COHEN, in terms of some kind of tribute to the effort that she is making on behalf of so many of us.

□ 1830

So I would return, or I can lead to one of our other classmates of '06, but I can say we are very proud of Gabby Giffords, both when she was here and now in the service that she provides to our Nation just in her everyday life.

Mr. COHEN. I thank you, Mr. PERLMUTTER. I appreciate your remarks. You are a leader on this issue, and so is Mr. COURTNEY who is so intimately involved with Newtown, another area that suffered from gun violence. I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY), another member of the class of '06.

Mr. COURTNEY. I thank you, Mr. COHEN. I want to thank you for organizing this event. The group that is here tonight, the class of '06, was a very tight-knit group. Every Wednesday we would meet in the morning. Gabby was one of the leaders of that group. She was an outstanding Congresswoman. She sat with me on the Armed Services Committee. She had an Air Force base in Arizona, and she was tenacious in terms of the Defense authorization bill markups ever year in terms of making sure that that base was fully protected and represented to the maximum extent.

She also was a huge advocate for the post-9/11 GI Bill. Some of us remember that struggle to expand the GI Bill and to restore the benefit for soldiers and veterans and their families that had deteriorated over time, giving again the full tuition benefit for a 4-year college within the State in which the servicemember resides, and to extend that benefit to spouses and children.

Just a few days ago actually, the Department of Veterans Affairs an-

nounced the 1 millionth enrollee in that program. Again, Gabby was at the absolute beginning of that struggle which again had to overcome active resistance from the then-Bush administration. There were negotiations that finally got that measure passed and through. Again, a million families of servicemembers have benefited from it.

By the way, an interesting parenthetical observation was that when that program went online, it had a huge technological computer malfunction. Secretary Shinseki and the VA had to manually cut checks so that tuition payments were made. Obviously, there are echoes of problems that we are struggling with here today. But again, Gabby's record in terms of restoring that GI Bill benefit and in fact expanding it is one of the great accomplishments of her time in Congress.

As my friend from Colorado said, her record since her injury is really amazing. I remember standing in the back of the Chamber when she cast her final vote as a Member of Congress. It was the budget package that again kept the country from defaulting. When she walked through that door, limping up those steps, it was almost a miraculous moment. Only a small group of people knew she had flown out here to cast that ballot. Again, it showed her patriotism that she felt that her country was in trouble and her country needed her; and despite all of her difficulties and disabilities, she wanted to be here to cast that ballot. Again, it was a capstone to just an extraordinary record of service for her district.

As Mr. COHEN mentioned, I come from the State of Connecticut, which is obviously the State where the Sandy Hook shooting took place slightly over a year ago. Again, a traumatic event. Connecticut is a very small State. Newtown High School, where President Obama came and spoke to the families and the first responders a couple of days after the incident, is about 50 minutes from my house, and I live in the furthest district from the Fifth Congressional District where Newtown, Connecticut, is located. So again, it had reverberations all across the State. We had family members who live in the Second Congressional District who lost loved ones in that horrendous incident.

And, frankly, just before the break, a lot of those families came and visited Washington, D.C. It had been a year since that incident. And as Mr. YARMUTH indicated, the frustration about the fact that this city did not respond to that just absolutely horrific event where 6-year-olds and 7-year-olds lost their lives to an individual who should never have been in possession of high-powered weapons, or weapons of any kind, again has not resulted in any legislative change.

I do think it is important to give the administration credit that a few weeks ago they did issue new rules so that mental health collection of data for the Brady system is going to be strengthened. If you look again at the

series of events that have occurred in communities since Sandy Hook, even just down the road here at the D.C. naval yard, again it was another individual, deranged individual, again who should never have been in a position to possess weapons. And the rules that were issued a few days ago will expand the scope of court findings, whether it is a worker's compensation case or whether it is a probate court case where an individual has been found to be mentally ill to the point where they can't support themselves and should get Social Security disability benefits. That commonsense change is now going to feed into the Brady system so that record checks will at least administratively be strengthened.

But clearly, the gun-shop loophole, the patchwork reporting needs to be strengthened by an act of Congress, and that certainly is what Gabby is calling upon all of us to have the courage to be able to look these families in the eye who came to Washington a few weeks ago and said we understand that that never should have happened and that we are prepared to make changes, commonsense changes, constitutional changes, to the system.

You know, I think it is important to note, as Mr. PERLMUTTER said, if you read the D.C. v. Heller case, which is the hallmark case of an individual right to bear arms, and you read Justice Scalia's decision, he made it crystal clear that the right to own firearms does not extend to criminals, to the mentally ill, and certain classes and categories of weapons, whether it is fully automatic machine guns or other weapons that are not in common need or use, are not protected by the D.C. v. Heller decision. Like any portion of the Bill of Rights, there are balanced restrictions which the courts recognize and give us the latitude to do our job and to make commonsense changes.

So, again, Gabby's injuries, which again took place 3 years ago, it is hard to believe that that much time has gone by. We still have to hold on to that and make sure that her amazing service in the Congress, and also her record of advocacy, is something we live up to to that example, that inspiring example, and do what is right for the American people.

I yield back to my friend, Mr. COHEN.

Mr. COHEN. Gabby was a member of the NRA; I don't know if she is now. I passed the right-to-carry bill in Tennessee because I think you can have reasonable laws that allow people to defend themselves, but there is reasonableness. And the problem we have had has been reasonableness, and Gabby's effort with her husband Mark is responsible solutions. It is not banning guns; it is responsible solutions.

Mental health is certainly one of those issues that has been raised, and yet we in our budgets have cut mental health with the budgets that we have had up here. Some have blamed and the response has been about violent games that children might play or be exposed

to. Those weren't around when Charles Joseph Whitman went to the tower in Austin, Texas, and killed 17 people and wounded 32. That wasn't the cause of it. It is something, unfortunately, uniquely American. It is a uniquely American problem. Studies have shown that the U.S. homicide rates are 6.9 times greater than the rates in other high-income countries, and they are driven by firearm homicide rates that are 19.7 times higher.

In the 27 countries that were studied of higher industrialized countries, 80 percent of all firearm deaths occur in the United States, and 86 percent of women killed by firearms were United States women, and 87 percent of the children were United States children.

The gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), a member of the class of '06 has joined us, and I know he has understandings of these issues, too, and is a responsible and reasonable voice. I yield to him for his comments and thoughts.

Mr. WELCH. Thank you, Mr. COHEN. It is so wonderful to hear about our classmate. We who were elected with Gabby had a special privilege to get to know her personally and to see her grit and her determination and her gracefulness and her effectiveness representing her district, and the incredible job she did on the Armed Services Committee. I remember all of the things that you mentioned, and she had a kind word for everybody. She didn't forget anything. She was totally devoted to her staff and to her constituents. What a pleasure it was. All of us, I think, felt if Congress was filled with folks like Gabby Giffords, the world would be a better place, even Congress.

Since her shooting 3 years ago, America has gotten a glimpse into that person of character and beauty that all of us got to know as a classmate. What an extraordinary person she is. I just want to read a little bit from her op-ed because it kind of captures things. When this happened 3 years ago, she mentions that she was allowed the opportunity for a new life, but she had planned to spend her 40s continuing her public service and starting a family with this wonderful man, her husband, who she married while she was in service here in Congress, Mark Kelly. Remember when we saw Mark Kelly struggling with the question of his wife in the hospital and having to decide whether to continue to command the mission into space, and how he struggled with that, wanting to be doing what he was trained all his life to do, and be also the extraordinary husband that he was, and how Gabby was his biggest supporter that he continue the mission. What a couple they are.

And then to hear her describe what she has had to go through. She was really athletic. She rode horses, and she rode motorcycles. She hiked up and down the Grand Canyon. She was very physically fit and vigorous, an outdoors woman. In that moment when she was shot, the question was whether

she was going to live. She did—a blessing for her, for us, for America, and her family. But her life then required her to face incredible challenges—how to learn things that we now take for granted. She describes:

I spent the last 3 years learning how to talk again, how to walk again. I had to learn to sign my name with my left hand. It is gritty, painful, frustrating work every day. And rehab is endlessly repetitive. It is never easy because once you have mastered some movement or action or word, no matter how small, you move on to the next. You never rest.

What Gabby did, that was the life that was in front of her, and she had to make a decision about whether to engage and plunge forward, knowing how hard that would be, how repetitive that would be, and she did it. Of course, she has been making progress, incredible progress, and she celebrates in this op-ed that she didn't image that her stricken, paralyzed arm would ever move again. For so many days it did not, until one day it did.

So she faces life and embraces this new life that is nothing compared to that athletic, horse-riding, motorcycle-riding, and Grand Canyon climbing person that was very easy for her to be.

She had all of that, those personal qualities with this enormous commitment to public life and had a belief that what we did to try to shape public policy mattered. How you treated the person in your life, the ones you love, incredibly important; but how you use that love to try to build laws that create opportunities for a better, less violent, more peaceful society. She had the energy and the heart to do that as well. And she is continuing that with her cause, working side by side with her husband, Mark, for sensible gun legislation.

You know, when I think about what she has done, and, sure, we can have a legitimate debate about what is the right law. I definitely think the background checks, why wouldn't we have that apply to everybody. It doesn't restrict their ability; it just means they go through the check. When I consider that and think, all right, there are legitimate debates on both sides, and the Second Amendment is extremely important and we are all supporters of it, but what is the problem with Congress voting on it. Why is it that we can't summon the will to simply put on the floor for a debate and then a vote where each one of us says "yes" or "no" on that proposed legislation, background check, and let Americans then decide what they think of us, whether they agree with us or they don't.

You know, at a certain point, it is just a question of whether we will do our job, and doing our job is debating the major issues of the time that are of concern to the people of this country, and then standing and voting "yes" or "no."

I say we owe that to Gabby. Gabby wouldn't see it that way. She would say that we owe it to ourselves to take

on the responsibility that we sought when we ran for public office and took on the privilege of representing the people who sent us here.

□ 1845

So I say thank you to Gabby for all she has done, and I challenge us to try to do a little bit of what Gabby would do if she were here to help us today.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Tennessee has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. COHEN. At this point, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER).

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I thank the gentleman from Tennessee, because I want to just talk about something Mr. WELCH said and also something Mr. COURTNEY said.

Mr. COURTNEY said that she had worked on some things involving technology with respect to the VA, and there were some technological problems with whatever it was she was getting. She was a curious, and is a curious, individual. She brought a curiosity about technology. She was one of the first adopters of the iPad as we began using it here. She just had become an expert in it long before any of the rest of us.

She also was strong enough that she worked in her dad's tire store. So here is a woman who brought that energy, brought that enthusiasm, brought that curiosity and brought a real service, a desire for service to this country. Despite terrible wounds, she continues that service today. If we could all do that this Nation would be unbelievable. It is our job to continue to try to provide that service and follow her example. Despite all the obstacles, here is a woman still changing the world. I am very glad to be able to speak for her in this moment today, 3 years after she was shot, but she is still making a difference.

Mr. COHEN. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all the Members. There were others that would have been here but had certain conflicts at this time.

We all loved Gabby. She was the star of our class. It was before 3 years ago on the 8th of January that she was the star of our class. We all knew it, and we all loved her.

I want to thank each of our colleagues for joining us. I want to thank Gabby for her service and her continued service. She is an American hero.

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

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2279, REDUCING EXCESSIVE DEADLINE OBLIGATIONS ACT OF 2013; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3362, EXCHANGE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3811, HEALTH EXCHANGE SECURITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

Mr. BURGESS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-322) on the resolution (H. Res. 455) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2279) to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act relating to review of regulations under such act and to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 relating to financial responsibility for classes of facilities; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3362) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require transparency in the operation of American health benefit exchanges; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3811) to require notification of individuals of breaches of personally identifiable information through exchanges under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. 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 materials on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues in the House and I are here today to talk about another unintended consequence of the Affordable Care Act. We understand there is little appetite in this body to provide fixes to a flawed law. However, we believe that an unexpected and previously undetected problem with the law represents special and urgent circumstances.

This really took me by surprise. The fact that the Affordable Care Act could force volunteer fire companies to provide health insurance to their volunteers or pay a fine would burden them with unbearable costs and possibly cause them to reduce the number of volunteers they have or shut their doors altogether.

Simply put, this is a public safety issue. This is a problem today because

the Internal Revenue Service currently treats volunteer firefighters as employees for Federal tax purposes. Under the Affordable Care Act, if they have 50 or more employees and they work 30 hours a week, then the employers have to provide health insurance or pay a fine.

Here is a key point that I want to make. Some fire companies may hear about this and immediately think: well, we only have 25 volunteers so we are safe, we don't have 50. Well, that may not necessarily be the case. Some fire companies are considered part of their local government. That could mean that if you take the number of firefighters paid and unpaid now considered employees by the IRS and add them to the number of other public employees, such as highway workers, police, code enforcement officers, health officers, clerical workers, you can easily reach 50, even in a small town.

This would be a very big deal in my home State of Pennsylvania. Ninety-seven percent of our fire companies are either completely or mostly volunteers. Nationally, 91.7 percent of fire companies use at least some volunteers and 86.2 percent depend on all or mostly volunteers. Those numbers come from the 2012 National Fire Department Census conducted by the United States Fire Administration.

So I wrote a letter to the IRS, just like many of my colleagues here, and asked them for clarification. To this point, as of this afternoon, we have gotten no reply from the Internal Revenue Service. They have said that they are "reviewing" it.

This should be very easy to clear up for the IRS. Just say that volunteer firefighters are just that—volunteers. But we are still waiting.

Let's be clear about this. This wrinkle in the Affordable Care Act will not provide health care to the uninsured; it will only shut down fire companies and cause a severe threat to public safety.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 3685, the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act. The bill will specifically exempt volunteer firefighters and volunteers providing emergency medical services from the employer mandate provision of the Affordable Care Act.

I was happy to learn that there is a bipartisan Senate bill that is a companion to mine. I hope that we can see bipartisan support for this in both the House and in the Senate and that we can get through this quickly so that the President can sign it.

Mr. Speaker, this problem with the Affordable Care Act represents a clear and present danger to public safety.

I would like to invite my colleagues to offer their thoughts about this problem and how it relates to their own districts.

I would like to yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I thank my friend from Pennsylvania, Mr.