

a less dangerous type of nuclear waste. Yet, the Department has refused to undertake a contemporary environmental review or threat assessment.

In response, this House passed legislation by a vote of 416-0, requiring a threat assessment of a potential terror attack on such cargo. Yet, the Department of Energy announced that it intends to ignore the clear will of this House and authorize 150 truck shipments this year without conducting the threat assessment this House demanded.

Mr. Speaker, this route was a bad idea when it was first approved 20 years ago. Disregarding the terror threat, which has increased since then, is dangerously negligent, and we will not stand by while our communities are at risk.

CONGRATULATING BEIGER ELEMENTARY STUDENTS ON WINNING 2015 INDIANA FIRST LEGO LEAGUE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

(Mrs. WALORSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the team from Beiger Elementary School in Mishawaka, Indiana, for winning the 2015 FIRST LEGO League State Championship.

The Beiger Bots is a team of students who was judged in three areas: a theme-based project, a robot competition, and an evaluation of core values, like teamwork.

The project portion challenged the group to reduce, reuse, or recycle garbage. These students visited a local landfill and discovered that Styrofoam cutouts cannot be recycled. They brainstormed new uses for them, ultimately deciding to repurpose them as a folding breakfast tray.

After conquering Indiana, the Beiger Bots will now emerge in April at the world competition in St. Louis, the FIRST LEGO League World Festival.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Beiger Bots on their big win, and I wish them all the luck in St. Louis.

I also want to thank the parents, the coaches, the teachers, the principals, and all of the community that supported them for this big win.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the names of these students and coaches.

NAMES OF STUDENTS ON BEIGER BOTS

Jonas Knorr
Ana DeVries
Lilly Wilson
Illiana Vanlue
Jacob Stanton
David Sharp
Elizabeth Newland-Ball
Ben Pamachena
Max Ford
Briella Buchmann

NAMES OF COACHES OF BEIGER BOTS

Robert Pamachena
JoAnn Pamachena
Sarah Knorr
Maria DeVries

IN HONOR OF GARY LOCKE

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gary Locke, a man who has brought pride and joy to my community for more than three decades as the director of the Riverside Community College's marching band.

When Gary was hired to direct the program in 1984, the school had no drums, no uniforms, and just 16 kids who showed up to camp that first summer.

Thirty-two years later, the Marching Tigers are a world-renowned marching band that has represented Riverside proudly in blockbuster movies, in television shows, and at prestigious venues around the world.

Last week Gary and his wife, Sheila, led the band for the final time when they performed "Bon Voyage" at the New Year's Day parade in Paris.

Congratulations, Gary, on your retirement. Thank you for inspiring your students and for invigorating our community throughout your incredible career.

TITUS MOUNTAIN

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

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, last year my district was the home of a manhunt that captured the attention of the entire Nation.

For almost a month, local, State, and Federal law enforcement agents and corrections officers made Franklin County, New York, their home as they searched for two killers who had escaped from the Clinton Correctional Facility.

Titus Mountain is a family ski area in the Adirondacks that became a part of law enforcement history as the main staging area for this intensive manhunt. I visited this past August and saw firsthand the facilities that were provided to these law enforcement agents by the Monette family.

This weekend, Titus Mountain is hosting a special event for the brave men and women who were involved in the search for these killers. It is to say thank you for their help in protecting our community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank these law enforcement agents and corrections officers who risked their safety to protect the families in our community and to thank Titus Mountain for hosting this event.

SOUTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COALITION

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight some progress being made to improve health care.

Right now, in my district in Pierce County, Washington, we have a startling shortage of beds for folks who are suffering from mental illness. It is a problem. It has led to overcrowded jails, it has led to people who are in severe mental crisis ending up in emergency rooms, it has led to people not getting the treatment that they need, and it has led to there being desperate families.

Folks in our region have decided to do something about it. Together with the two largest healthcare providers, our community has formed the South Sound Behavioral Health Coalition, which is comprised of healthcare experts, social service providers, local elected officials, law enforcement, business, labor, and faith leaders. We have come together with a plan to build a new facility that includes 120 beds and that bolsters local behavioral health care.

It is an extraordinary contrast to the action this week in this body in which the House voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act for the 62nd time. Leaders shouldn't be stripping away care. They should be coming together. They should take a page from my community, where folks are coming together and are moving forward together.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM WALLACE SPRAGUE, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay respect to William Wallace Sprague, Jr., who peacefully passed away last week at the age of 89.

Mr. Sprague was born on November 11, 1926. He served 2 years in the United States Navy during World War II, and he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering from MIT and Yale in 1950.

From 1972 to 1994, he was chairman of the board and the CEO of Savannah Foods and Industries, which was the maker of Dixie Crystals sugar. Under his leadership, Savannah Foods grew from a small regional sugar refinery to a major national sugar company and a Fortune 500 member. In fact, from 1980 to 1990, Savannah Foods was number two in total returns to shareholders with a total return of 4,862 percent.

Over the years, he also served as the director of several national and international associations. In 1999, he was inducted into the Georgia Southern University's Business Hall of Fame.

He was very involved in the Savannah community, serving as director, trustee, or president for numerous community organizations, and he also worked to improve the lives of people in the community in which he lived.

His passion for life, his sense of humor, and his enthusiasm for making Savannah, Georgia, a better place will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

□ 1215

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PETERS. Souderton, Pennsylvania, December 15, 2014:

Patricia Hill, 75 years old.

Joanna Koder Hill, 57.

Aaron Flick, 39.

Patricia Flick, 36.

Nicole Hill, 33.

Nina Flick, 14 years old.

Rice, Texas, September 20, 2013:

Israel Alvarez, 33 years old.

Misael Alvarez, 10.

Cain Alvarez, 8.

Israel Junior Alvarez, 4.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, January 7, 2013:

Julie Jackson, 55 years old.

Misty Nunley, 33.

Rebeika Powell, 23.

Kayetie Melchor, 23 years old.

Colorado Springs, Colorado, November 27, 2015:

Officer Garrett Swasey, 44 years old.

Jennifer Markovsky, 35.

Ke'Arre Stewart, 29.

Cadiz, Kentucky, October 26, 2014:

Lindsey Champion, 62 years old.

Joy Champion, 60.

Emily Champion, 32.

Vito Riservato, 22.

Palestine, Texas, November, 14, 2014:

Carl Johnson, 77 years old.

Thomas Camp, 46.

Hannah Johnson, 40.

Nathan Camp, 23.

Austin Camp, 21.

Kade Johnson, 6.

THERE IS NO BURGER KING PROVISION IN THE CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the administration blames the violence in America on gun dealers and Congress. So the administration is going to issue some more executive memos and unilaterally ignore the Second Amendment.

Never mind that the administration's illegal action would not have prevented any of the tragic mass shootings in recent years. The administration should be prosecuting criminals who use guns, not vetoing the Second Amendment.

The administration's executive action on gun control is just the latest example of the White House attempting to bypass the Constitution and the legislative branch to implement a political agenda.

The Constitution does not have a Burger King provision for the executive branch. The President cannot have it his way. Laws are written by Congress. The executive is to enforce the law, and the former constitutional professor should know better than to dictate new law, regardless of whether he thinks it is a good idea or not.

The administration's edict granting of executive amnesty has already been

ruled unconstitutional by lower courts, but it seems that the administration won't let the Constitution get in the way of political expediency.

And that is just the way it is.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEGISLATION

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, this time last year, I attended the State of the Union Address with my guest, Richard Martinez, whose son Christopher was gunned down during a tragic Isla Vista shooting that rocked our local community on the Central Coast of California.

Together, we committed that "not one more" life should be lost, "not one more" family affected, "not one more" community torn apart by gun violence.

On Tuesday, Mr. Martinez stood with the President as he announced executive actions to curb gun violence. These actions are an important step forward, but they are also a recognition that Congress has shirked its responsibility to take action to protect all Americans from this epidemic.

If we are ever going to fulfill our pledge "not one more," we must take bold action.

I speak today to urge my colleagues to join us. It is far past time to act with urgency, put partisanship aside, do what is necessary to keep our neighborhoods safe. We may never be able to guarantee the elimination of gun violence entirely, but we can guarantee that, if we do nothing, nothing will change.

STAFF SERGEANT CHESTER MCBRIDE

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, lining the streets of downtown Statesboro, Georgia, last weekend, hundreds of people holding American flags gathered to pay respects to a fallen hero. Air Force Sergeant Chester McBride was killed in an attack in Afghanistan that also claimed the lives of five more service-members last month.

He was laid to rest on Saturday, January 2. Chester was only 30 years old. He was a former starting cornerback for the 2001 Statesboro High School championship team. He excelled in sports in school, graduating from Savannah State University in 2007.

Chester had dreams of joining the FBI when he returned home. He was posthumously awarded four medals for his actions in service by the United States Air Force.

Chester chose to serve his country, and we will always remember the sacrifices he made in the name of freedom. A family has lost a son, and a community has lost a hometown hero.

May God continue to bless our servicemen and -women and their families. Let us never forget what was said 2,000 years ago: that the greatest love one can offer is to offer their lives for another.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues from both sides to stand up for the 100,000 people who have been killed by gun violence over the past decade.

It is time to stand up for the over 2,600 children who die from gun violence and the over 6,400 women who are murdered by an intimate partner by a gun each year.

I believe it is the responsibility of this body to take the steps in order to protect our citizens. We are not limiting a person's right to bear arms by requiring everyone or an entity selling firearms to obtain a license and to do background checks. We are saving lives. We are not limiting a person's right to bear arms by looking at safety technology, gun safes with fingerprint technology. We are saving lives.

We are certainly not restricting a responsible citizen from obtaining a firearm by investing in mental health care and by renewing domestic violence outreach efforts, as both are causes of gun violence.

It is time to respond to this now. The status quo is no longer acceptable.

MARCH FOR LIFE

(Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we made history. For the first time, Congress put a bill on a President's desk to defund Planned Parenthood, an organization that puts its financial interests ahead of women and children. More than that, Congress is investing in women's health by redirecting this funding to organizations that don't take innocent lives.

In Michigan, there are 20 federally qualified health clinics for every single Planned Parenthood location. Let's eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood and invest those dollars in federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics. This will ensure that women receive high quality medical care while protecting the life of the unborn.

West Michigan and the Second District of Michigan are home to passionate and dedicated pro-life organizations in Grand Rapids, Holland, and the Tri-Cities area, and Muskegon, Newaygo, and Mason Counties.

Later this month, hundreds of thousands of Americans, including many