

Deidra Drayton. Leroy Valentin Fernandez. Simon Adrian Carrillo Fernandez. Mercedez Marisol Flores. Peter O. Gonzalez-Cruz. Juan Ramon Guerrero. Paul Terrell Henry. Frank Hernandez. Miguel Angel Honorato. Javier Jorge-Reyes. Jason Benjamin Josaphat. Eddie Jamoldroy Justice. Anthony Luis Laureanodisla. Christopher Andrew Leinonen. Alejandro Barrios Martinez. Juan Chevez-Martinez. Brenda Lee Marquez McCool. Gilberto Ramon Silva Menendez. Oscar A. Aracena-Montero. Kimberly Morris. Akyra Monet Murray. Luis Omar Ocasio-Capo. Geraldo A. Ortiz-Jimenez. Eric Ivan Ortiz-Rivera. Joel Rayon Paniagua. Jean Carlos Mendez Perez. Enrique L. Rios, Jr. Jean C. Nives Rodriguez. Xavier Emmanuel Serrano Rosado. Christopher Joseph Sanfeliz. Yilmay Rodriguez Solivan. Edward Sotomayor, Jr. Shane Evan Tomlinson. Martin Benitez Torres. Jonathan Antonio Camuy Vega.

We will never forget. And while we mourn your loss, your memory will inspire us to fight for change.

TIME FOR ACTION

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because thoughts and prayers are not enough. It is time for action.

The hateful terrorist attack targeting America's LGBT community in Orlando is another reminder to come together and work across party lines to root out terrorism, prevent gun violence, and put an end to bigotry of all kinds. An attack on one American is an attack on all of us.

We cannot allow partisanship to define this debate. We must take decisive and united actions to ensure that nothing like the attacks on Orlando, Paris, Newtown, or San Bernardino ever happen again.

Congress should immediately move forward and pass the Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act. This commonsense bill would prohibit suspected terrorists from possessing guns or explosives. Keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of people who wish to do our country harm is a solution that we should all be able to get behind.

The hateful attack in Orlando also reminds us once more of the growing threat of ISIS-inspired radical Islamic terrorist on U.S. soil is real and cannot be ignored or downplayed.

Congress must reassert leadership in the fight against ISIS by passing legislation to hold the President accountable for developing a comprehensive plan to destroy ISIS.

Through congressional oversight hearings, we must also ensure that Federal agencies and local law enforcement are effectively communicating with each other to identify international and homegrown terror threats through both traditional security approaches and social media.

Internationally, Congress must act to cut off sources of funding to other radical Islamic terror groups by restoring crippling sanctions on Iran. The recent agreement, which, frankly, shipped billions of dollars to the world's largest state sponsor of terror while helping finance organizations like Hamas and Hezbollah, is simply unacceptable.

At home, we cannot allow the tired, partisan bickering to distract us from the difficult but necessary work of preventing gun violence. We need to bridge the partisan divide and put the best interests of our country before politics.

A good first step is the legislation that I helped introduce with former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords to require universal background checks on firearm purchases. The vast majority of the American people support this commonsense idea, and it is past time Congress moves forward with this proposal that will keep more people safe.

We also need to improve communications so that local law enforcement is notified when someone attempts to purchase a gun and fails a required background check. My colleague, Congressman MIKE QUIGLEY, introduced a commonsense bill to make this fix, which I strongly support.

Other important efforts to prevent gun violence include my bill with Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL to prevent domestic abusers from being able to purchase weapons. This proposal would help, again, prohibit firearm trafficking used to evade background checks, and also, a long-overdue increase in mental health resources.

In short, there are numerous commonsense proposals, Mr. Speaker, that will keep guns out of the hands of those that should not have them while protecting our Second Amendment rights. It is time that we take action.

Mr. Speaker, there is no quick and easy solution to all the problems underscored by the Orlando terrorist attack, but if we are able to set aside partisan differences and unite in the best interests of our Nation, we can make serious strides in the ongoing efforts to keep Americans safe and prevent future atrocities.

WE ARE ALL ORLANDO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I went down to the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village in New York City, where the modern gay rights movement really began.

I went there to leave some flowers in honor of those members of the LGBT community who lost their lives in the massacre—the worst mass shooting in American history—at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

While I stood there in solidarity with a somber crowd of allies and members

of the LGBT community, it occurred to me that, just as the events at Stonewall were a turning point in the gay rights movement, this horrific attack in Orlando may serve as a turning point of its own because it is time for all of us to stand up together and say: Enough. We will not be silent. This madness must end.

And make no mistake, it is utter madness that a man with a history of domestic violence, a man who had been investigated by the FBI for his possible ties to terror, could buy an assault weapon as easily as he could buy an aspirin.

In the Pulse massacre, this man armed with an AR-15 military-type assault rifle, a weapon that he bought legally, killed 49 people and injured 50 more.

□ 1100

Earlier, at an elementary school in Connecticut, another madman with an AR-15-style assault weapon killed 26 children and their teachers. And in a theater in Aurora, Colorado, one man with one AR-15 assault weapon killed 12 and wounded 70.

In each of these mass casualty events, it took one gun and one man to brutally take so many innocent lives. In each case, the gun was an assault weapon.

Assault weapons are designed to do one thing very well, and that is to kill people very rapidly. They aren't used for hunting. They aren't used for self-defense. They are used as weapons of war.

So why is it so easy for people to purchase them and hurt others?

That is why, in 1994, three United States Presidents—President Ford, President Carter, and President Reagan—all signed a letter to the House of Representatives calling for a Federal ban on military-style assault weapons. I will place their meaningful letter into the RECORD.

MAY 3, 1994.

TO MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: We are writing to urge your support for a ban on the domestic manufacture of military-style assault weapons. This is a matter of vital importance to the public safety. Although assault weapons account for less than 1% of the guns in circulation, they account for nearly 10% of the guns traced to crime.

Every major law enforcement organization in America and dozens of leading labor, medical, religious, civil rights and civic groups support such a ban. Most importantly, poll after poll shows that the American public overwhelmingly support a ban on assault weapons. A 1993 CNN/USA Today/Gallup Poll found that 77% of Americans support a ban on the manufacture, sale, and possession of semiautomatic assault guns, such as the AK-47.

The 1989 import ban resulted in an impressive 40% drop in imported assault weapons traced to crime between 1989 and 1991, but the killing continues. Last year, a killer armed with two TEC9s killed eight people at a San Francisco law firm and wounded several others. During the past five years, more than 40 law enforcement officers have been killed or wounded in the line of duty by an assault weapon.

While we recognize that assault weapon legislation will not stop all assault weapon crime, statistics prove that we can dry up the supply of these guns, making them less accessible to criminals. We urge you to listen to the American public and to the law enforcement community and support a ban on the further manufacture of these weapons.

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD.
JIMMY CARTER.
RONALD REAGAN.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. That same year, I voted for a Federal Assault Weapons Ban signed into law by President Clinton that also banned massacre-sized magazines. Unfortunately, this ban expired in 2004, and Congress, under pressure from the NRA, has since refused to reauthorize it, even when facts show that reauthorizing it would save lives.

It should come as no surprise that, of the 10 mass shooting incidents in the United States, 7 of them involved the use of an assault-style rifle.

That is why I fully and wholeheartedly support the commonsense proposal to reinstate a Federal ban on the sale and manufacture of assault weapons and massacre-sized magazines, and that is why so many Members of Congress have introduced—on both sides of the aisle—commonsense gun reform bills.

And let's be clear. These measures are not some kind of assault on Second Amendment freedoms for hunters or those who wish to have a gun for self-protection. The assault ban is a limited, commonsense measure to help keep people safe.

It is time for us to stand up together and to pass these commonsense bills because this time #WeAreAllOrlando.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT OF SMALL BUSINESSES ON OUR NATION'S ECONOMY

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance and the impact that small businesses have on our Nation's economy.

Last month, we celebrated National Small Business Week in order to recognize the hard work and dedication of the estimated 28 million small-business owners who provided 48 percent of the private sector job workforce here in the United States while also representing 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees.

It is without a doubt that small businesses are the backbone of our Nation's economy. I greatly appreciate each and every small-business owner across this country who devotes their time, their passion, and their financial resources to ensure that small businesses are successful. For these individuals, Small Business Week is every week of the year.

As a former small-business owner of 20 years, I understand what it takes to

build a successful small business while ensuring that our customers receive the products and service they expect and our employees are provided for.

It wasn't always easy as a small-business owner, but having the opportunity to employ hundreds of employees over the years is an experience I would never trade.

Over the last 17 months, I have had the great privilege of touring numerous small businesses within my district, where I have had the opportunity to speak to the employees that see firsthand what business does as it contributes to our economy.

From the small-business barber shop to a tortilla chip factory, it has always amazed me to see the enthusiasm that exists when the small-business owners work side-by-side with their employees. It is for this reason that small businesses are the backbone of our economy.

It is my honor to recognize outstanding individuals who received the award on May 4 in Las Vegas during the 2016 SBA Small Business Award luncheon. These individuals serve their community as a current small-business owner or provide services for small businesses.

Receiving the Small Business Person of the Year Award was Bradley Burdsall, owner of six restaurants in southern Nevada named The Egg Works and the Egg & I, with his newest location just recently opening in Nevada's Fourth Congressional District.

Mr. Burdsall's company has seen tremendous growth and expansion over the past 18 years, including being featured in USA Today and on the Food Network. I congratulate Bradley Burdsall on being awarded the 2016 SBA Small Business of the Year for Nevada.

Receiving the Veteran Owned Business of the Year award was Robert D. Daniel, the owner of PrideStaff Las Vegas. Prior to starting the PrideStaff Las Vegas location, Mr. Daniel spent 30 years in the field of employee management, including holding executive positions with IBM, Fuji USA, Western Electronics, and MicronPC.

With this valuable managerial experience along with his service in the United States Air Force and as a Vietnam veteran, Mr. Daniel has built a company that greatly benefits southern Nevada by providing businesses with temporary employees. I congratulate Robert D. Daniel on being awarded the 2016 SBA Veteran Owned Business of the Year for Nevada.

Receiving the Small Business Advocate Lifetime Achievement Award was Bob Cushman, who has volunteered his time as a SCORE Las Vegas counselor and a mentor since 1998. With decades of experience, Mr. Cushman has used his invaluable knowledge to counsel 3,000 small businesses in southern Nevada.

Mr. Cushman's dedication to the small business community has been a valuable asset to southern Nevada, so I

congratulate Mr. Cushman on being awarded the 2016 SBA Small Business Advocate Lifetime Achievement Award.

Receiving the Women's Business Advocate of the Year was Leanna Jenkins, director of the Nevada Women's Business Center. Ms. Jenkins has spent years working in the small business community to provide small-business owners with the educational and financial resources necessary to succeed, especially for women- and minority-owned businesses.

Ms. Jenkins has made a tremendous impact within the small-business community of southern Nevada, so I congratulate Ms. Leanna Jenkins for being awarded the 2016 SBA Women's Business Advocate of the Year Award for Nevada.

Again, I would like to thank these award winners and all small-business owners for what they do on a daily basis to provide their employees with a job, their customers with a great product or service, and contribute to the American economy. Small businesses are the true economic engines of this country.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is always a preeminent privilege to stand in the well of the Congress of the United States of America. I never take for granted the opportunity that has been afforded me by my constituents, as their representative, to be here and stand and speak on their behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that this day is Flag Day. It is the day that the flag was adopted, June 14, 1777, and I am honored tonight to make additional comments about Flag Day. But this is a day that we honor the flag of the United States of America.

On this day when we will honor the flag of the United States of America, this evening, after the first votes, we will also bring to the floor the LGBTQ Pride Month resolution. We are bringing this resolution to the floor, notwithstanding things that have occurred, because we would not want the dastardly deeds of one to prevent us from commemorating the accomplishments of the many.

The resolution will be brought to the floor, and those Members of Congress who consider themselves allies of the LGBTQ community, please come. This will afford you an opportunity to speak of your concern and to express your love for the LGBTQ community. Allies of the community should come to the floor. This will be a great opportunity, and we ask that you preface your statements, let your preamble be "you are not alone."

This is an opportunity for those of us who are allies of the community to make it clear, perspicuously so, that this community is not alone; that they