

Mr. Speaker, you said JOHN LEWIS and the Democrats' activity on the floor was a stunt. It wasn't a stunt. It was in keeping with the great tradition of people like Elie Wiesel and JOHN LEWIS who know that at sometimes, when society and the government are so far out of line, there need to be extraordinary steps to bring attention to issues and make a change. The bill you are bringing to the floor is a stunt. JOHN LEWIS does not engage in stunts.

REJECT THE GUN LOBBY BILL

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is sad that it took a 26-hour sit-in of 177 Members just to get a vote on one gun violence prevention bill this Congress. It is even sadder that Speaker RYAN still doesn't get it.

This week, we are voting on a big gun lobby bill that already failed in the Senate. It would give the Attorney General only 72 hours to determine if someone on the no-fly list should be able to purchase a gun. House rules require 3 days between a bill's introduction and a vote. Why does Speaker RYAN think that the House deserves 3 days to read a bill, but the FBI, Attorney General, and our courts should fully investigate a suspected terrorist in the same amount of time?

This isn't an attempt to address gun violence. It is a shameful attempt to claim that a vote was held, without hurting the majority's precious score-card rating with the big gun lobby.

This isn't a game. With each passing hour, another family mourns the loss of a loved one.

I urge my colleagues to reject the gun lobby bill. I call on you, Speaker RYAN, to have the courage to call up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan King-Thompson background check bill, a real gun violence prevention measure.

□ 1430

ASSAULT WEAPONS

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

Mr. GALLEGRO. Mr. Speaker, in the Iraq war, my unit fought door-to-door in some of the areas now controlled by ISIL, and we did it armed with an assault rifle called the M16A4.

Why did the Marine Corps send us into battle with this weapon?

At the risk of making anyone feel uncomfortable, the simple answer is this: Because the M16 is a machine designed to kill and maim people. It is not for target shooting, or hunting deer. The M16 was refined for the sole purpose of taking enemy lives in combat.

That is why it defies explanation that Republicans believe assault rifles like the M16 or the SIG SAUER MCX used in Orlando should be carried in our communities. Weapons that Ma-

rines use to kill enemy combatants in Iraq don't belong on the streets of Phoenix.

Mr. Speaker, it is even harder to understand why Republicans apparently think known terrorists should be allowed to purchase these firearms. They plan to bring a sham bill to the floor later this week that law enforcement leaders tell us will do nothing to prevent individuals on the terrorist watch list from obtaining these deadly weapons. That is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, here is the bottom line. If you are too dangerous to fly on a plane, then you are too dangerous to buy the kind of weapon I carried in Iraq.

GUN VIOLENCE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of the endless gun violence happening across the country, the American people are calling desperately on Congress to act.

Under pressure from House and Senate Democrats during the historic sit-in, Republican leadership has finally agreed to allow a vote on legislation to prevent gun sales to suspected terrorists placed on the no-fly list. While it is my view that this legislation does not go far enough to prevent violence in our neighborhoods, it serves as an important step in order to continue an open dialogue on this issue.

My grandson, who is a responsible district manager in a very large corporation in this Nation, is an NRA member. He hunts and he plays golf. He asked me: "Granny, why must anybody have an AK-47? Why must these kind of weapons be sold to people? They must have background checks." Now, this is a member of the NRA.

Mr. Speaker, as Congress works to reduce gun violence and gun-related deaths throughout our country, I encourage my colleagues to immediately bring forward meaningful and comprehensive reforms.

THIS IS THE TIME TO ACT

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we celebrated Fourth of July, the 240th birthday of our Nation's independence, and the celebrations were quite vivid in my district, which includes parts of Philadelphia, the birthplace of our Nation.

One refrain I got often when walking in parades in my district yesterday, and I was really struck by it, was people calling out: "Thank you, thank you for the sit-in. I watched the sit-in. That's great."

I was really struck because, frankly, I have not had that experience of people so finely tuned to what is being broadcast on C-SPAN. It speaks to the

desire for people that we address this issue and the frustration that is out there that we just have moments of silence, and then total silence.

This is the time to act. No more Orlandos, no more Sandy Hooks, no more Auroras. Let's call up today the two bills that are supported by 90 percent of the American people.

IT IS TIME TO DO THE RIGHT THING

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today simply because it is time. It is time to save lives. It is time to close the gun show and Internet loophole. It is time to make sure if you are on the no-fly list, you can't buy a gun in America.

It is time for the American people to know where their representatives stand. It is time to find out who will prevail, the people of the United States, or the NRA. It is time to end moments of silence and move into legislative action to save lives.

Mr. Speaker, don't you think it is time to give the people a vote?

Mr. Speaker, it is time for you to do the right thing for all American people and help save lives throughout the United States of America. It is time to do the right thing.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED US

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is time and I think it is time for the Congress and the House of Representatives to not look at diversionary issues, but to look at how the Federal Government has failed us. The Federal Government failed us in Orlando, it failed us in San Bernardino, it failed us in Boston.

The United States is under attack by extremist organizations, radicals. They have used a pressure cooker in Boston. They used pipe bombs and mechanisms they bought from plumbing stores in San Bernardino. They used weaponry that they acquired when the Federal Government failed in Orlando.

It is time that we get our watch list corrected so that we don't put people on, take them off, don't know who is on the list, who is off the list. It is time that the Federal agencies for law enforcement and protecting us connect the dots and not miss the opportunities to stop the Orlandos, the San Bernardinos and the Bostons.

THE TIME IS NOW

(Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the American people have

been clear: they are demanding a vote to keep Americans safe from gun violence.

When the Speaker announced a vote this week on gun violence, the American people hoped this would be a vote for families and children, a vote to honor victims and survivors of senseless gun violence, and a vote to keep Americans safe from harm. Instead, the American families have been given a bait-and-switch.

The bill we have in front of us is a vote for powerful special interests, a vote to honor the millions of dollars of the NRA's campaign spending, and a vote for a bill that does nothing to keep Americans safe from harm. This is a bill backed by the heavyhanded gun lobby that ensures it is easier for terrorist suspects to buy an assault rifle than to get on a plane.

Last week, representing half a million people, the mayors in my district came together and asked me to deliver a letter to Speaker RYAN. In part it reads:

"A strong and growing number of our constituents are deeply frustrated with the inaction of this Congress. We urge you to allow debate and votes on expanding background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of suspected terrorists."

The time is now for those votes.

IS THIS THE PEOPLE'S HOUSE?

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, we have heard Speaker RYAN say it. We have heard Majority Leader MCCARTHY say it. We have heard Leader PELOSI say it. We have heard Whip HOYER say it. We have all said it. We proudly refer to this body as the people's House.

Well, implicit in calling this the people's House is that we are responsive to what the citizens of this country want us to do. What a sham that description is when it comes to gun safety, what a total sham.

In my district, we are running at a record pace of homicide by gunfire. My constituents want to know why we can't even have a debate and a vote on sensible universal background checks which, according to a poll this week, 92 percent of the American people want.

I call on Speaker RYAN to fulfill the promise of the people's House and bring sensible gun safety legislation to this floor.

NO FLY, NO BUY

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a diverse district in New York, a State whose ban on assault weapons was just upheld by the Supreme Court, and a State which just

closed, on the State level, the senseless loopholes in our Federal gun purchasing regulations that allow known criminals and domestic abusers to obtain guns.

But one group of people New York's gun safety laws cannot reach are terrorist suspects. That is because the Federal Government controls the terrorism watch list. So it is up to Congress to make sure we keep guns out of the hands of known terrorists. And the vast majority of Americans agree, so we must act.

Mr. Speaker, this body has no more important mandate than to ensure the safety of our citizens. We must pass no fly, no buy, and we must pass comprehensive background checks to close the loopholes for those that are trying to purchase guns, and we need to act now. Enough is enough.

CITIZENS ARE DEMANDING REAL ANSWERS

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, since our sit-in, led by our moral leader, JOHN LEWIS, a steady, consistent chorus of voices across the country is growing louder demanding action on gun violence. The heartfelt calls, letters, emails, and social media postings continue to flood in from my constituents.

These are grandparents, mothers, young people who are saying "enough." In Sacramento alone, 60 people have lost their lives this last year. These are people who believe in the power of democracy, who are raising their voices, and who are counting on us to listen. They are saying "enough" to Republicans not having the courage to stand up to the powerful gun lobby.

The NRA-backed Republican deal we are considering today is an empty promise to the American people. It would make it nearly impossible to stop suspected terrorists from purchasing firearms, and it would do nothing to close a loophole that allows criminals to bypass a background check by simply going online or to a gun show.

Mr. Speaker, our citizens are demanding real answers, not hollow gestures. Let's listen to them. We will not rest until you do.

MEANINGFUL GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, last week I joined my Democratic colleagues from Michigan for a standing-room-only meeting of community members concerned about gun violence in our country. We were joined by representatives from law enforcement, the faith community, domestic violence advocates,

the LGBT community, and grassroots organizations.

We are at a turning point. The Speaker called our sit-down efforts a stunt. How wrong. It is the proposal that he is offering that would be a stunt instead of really addressing tragic gun violence confronting this Nation.

We should be considering the bipartisan, commonsense legislation that Americans overwhelmingly support: preventing suspected terrorists from buying guns, known as no buy, no fly, and closing loopholes that allow online and gun show sales to go forward without background checks.

There is strong public interest for action. We witnessed that last week. The Speaker must no longer stand in the way.

WE MUST PURSUE COMMONSENSE GUN VIOLENCE LEGISLATION

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, we must pursue commonsense gun violence legislation, legislation that makes a real impact on the epidemic of gun violence in our country. The American people are crying out for a vote, and we have a moral obligation to take action.

Two weeks ago, Democrats stood and sat on this floor and demanded a commonsense gun violence prevention bill. We are back today to continue that fight.

The bills the Republicans are bringing to the floor this week do little to eliminate the scourge of gun violence in our communities. In fact, the Zeldin bill is supported by the National Rifle Association. I think that is all you need to know.

We need to move a real no fly, no buy bill, one that actually prevents potential terrorists from getting dangerous weapons. But our work cannot stop there because gun violence in this country does not only occur at the hands of terrorists. We need to address the issue of universal background checks, to ban assault weapons, and to conduct research on gun violence.

No more deaths. The American people deserve a Congress that votes on the issues that they most care about. Not one more death in this country.

□ 1445

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in my district, the Fourth District of Georgia, the people are tired of gratuitous gun violence. Gun violence and gun deaths have risen by 8 percent over the last decade.

Just this Friday night, a 35-year-old female was killed. Her brother had