

Until the House acts on meaningful gun violence prevention legislation, my colleagues and I will continue to speak for Americans who demand action. We will be silent no more.

□ 1230

#### MICHELLE KELLY-LOVE WAS NOT JUST A NUMBER

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, this is a photo of my former coworker, Michelle Kelly-Love. Michelle and I worked together at the same company in Los Angeles in the early nineties, and she was kind and funny and warmhearted, a person who was very generous, and a dear friend of mine.

On February 27 of this year, Michelle was dropping off her son, Jordan, at his home in a quiet neighborhood in Carson, California. They were parked in her car in front of the house when they were attacked by a drive-by shooter. Both Michelle and her son were struck multiple times and died at the scene. Michelle's mother, the grandmother of Jordan, was in the back seat and survived.

Michelle's funeral was one of the saddest I have ever attended. She and her son were taken from us so randomly and so suddenly.

You have heard a lot of numbers and statistics related to gun deaths, but Michelle was not just a number. She was friend and a mother and had a long life ahead of her. Her 27-year old son was not just a number.

We cannot stand by and do nothing as our friends and neighbors continue to die. We have lost too many lives to gun violence. The time for action is now. Please.

#### GUN VIOLENCE 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, today I also rise on behalf of the families who have lost loved ones to gun violence, including in my very own district in Isla Vista, California, on May 23, 2014. That horrific act killed 6 and injured 14—young people full of life and promise: Katherine Cooper, Veronica Weiss, Christopher Martinez, Cheng Yuan Hong, George Chen, and Weihang Wang.

When these lives were tragically cut short, our community banded together to say “Not One More” life should be lost due to gun violence. But that message has fallen on deaf ears with the leadership of this House, resulting in countless Americans wondering each day if their community will be next. This is simply unacceptable. We cannot delay action any longer.

Mr. Speaker, this House must vote on a bill to address the gun violence epidemic in our country. Americans de-

serve a bill that will truly make our country safer, and they deserve a bill that seeks to ensure “Not One More” can become a reality.

#### BIPARTISAN, COMMONSENSE LAWS TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago I joined with many of my colleagues here on the House floor to demand a debate on commonsense gun legislation to increase background checks and keep terrorists from buying guns.

Despite the fact that the microphones and C-SPAN cameras were turned off, the discussion we held over the next 24 hours was seen and heard by millions of Americans. It was seen and heard because my colleagues and I took out our smartphones, and we took photos and streamed video, and we tweeted. We posted to Facebook and we broadcast on Periscope.

We call this Chamber “the people's House.” In the time that I have been serving here, there has never been a moment that has felt more like the people's House than that 25 hours. Yet now we hear that some are calling for us to be punished for bringing that debate and discussion to the American people. It is “behavior unbecoming” of the House of Representatives, they say.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what my colleagues and I did, and if that is what it takes to get us a vote on bipartisan, commonsense laws to prevent gun violence, I hope we will do it again.

#### GUNS AND OUR PRIORITIES

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, there is something seriously wrong with the priorities in Congress. Time and time again, this body is choosing to put political posturing above the interests, safety, and well-being of the American people.

Earlier today, I attended an Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing that was termed an emergency because the committee Republicans did not approve of a decision by career officials at the FBI and Justice Department to end the email case involving Secretary Clinton. In this hyper-partisan era, that counts as an emergency.

But the continuing plague of gun violence, one that takes over 32,000 innocent lives a year, has been, once again, put on the back burner. There is no sense of urgency. No bill, no vote.

Mr. Speaker, this is no way to take care of the American people's interests.

#### GUN SAFETY

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, “Teen killed in shooting that led to crash near ER in Charlotte.”

“Man shot and killed in uptown Charlotte.”

“Man found shot to death in Thomasville July 4th.”

“Man shot in Freeman Mills Shopping Center.”

“Shooting outside Florida Street Grocery Store in Greensboro.”

“Winston-Salem woman caught in crossfire.”

The media and my Republican colleagues have focused attention on which words we have used instead of the need to define the terms. As a former educator, let me define the word “epidemic.”

Webster defines it as something “affecting a disproportionately large number of individuals within a population, a community, or a region at the same time.”

The headlines I cited earlier define the term “gun violence epidemic,” an epidemic faced in my home State of North Carolina and across this country, an epidemic so vast that it took the life of Kevin Rodas, a 7-year old boy shot while playing in the front yard of his Charlotte home.

Let's cure these epidemics. Pass sensible, bipartisan gun safety legislation to prevent future acts of gun violence like Orlando or the one that took little Kevin's life back in my district.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, July 7, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 7, 2016 at 11:56 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 38.  
With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 524, COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2016; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 809 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 809

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 524) to authorize the Attorney General to

award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the conference report to its adoption without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate; and (2) one motion to recommit if applicable.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution—

(a) The House shall be considered to have: (1) taken from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 2943) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; (2) stricken all after the enacting clause of such bill and inserted in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 4909, as passed by the House; and (3) passed the Senate bill as so amended; and

(b) it shall be in order for the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee to move that the House insist on its amendment to S. 2943 and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BYRNE. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 809 facilitates the process to allow us to go to conference with the Senate on the National Defense Authorization Act. The resolution also provides for consideration of a conference report related to our efforts to combat the opioid crisis that is wreaking havoc in communities all across the United States.

I want to talk first about the need to get to conference with the Senate on the National Defense Authorization Act. For 54 straight years, the House and Senate have come together to fulfill our most important responsibility: to provide for the common defense.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk a lot about regular order. Well, there is no greater example of regular order than the National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation has gone from the subcommittee level to the full committee, to the full bodies of both Houses; and now we need to continue the process by allowing for this House to enter into negotiations with the Senate.

Between the House and the Senate, hundreds of amendments have been adopted to this legislation. Members from both sides of the aisle have had an

opportunity to have their input on this legislation, and the separate bills passed both by the House and the Senate have bipartisan support.

Now, there are some differences between the House and the Senate versions of the National Defense Authorization Act, and that is why we have to have the conference committee process. This will allow us to iron out our differences.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I can personally attest to just how important it is we get a strong, reform-based NDAA signed into law this year.

Our military is in the midst of a readiness crisis. Aircraft cannot fly due to maintenance issues. There are even reports of mechanics having to take parts off of planes inside museums in an effort to repair damaged aircraft.

Think about that for a minute. The United States, home to the greatest fighting force on the face of the Earth, is having to use plane parts from museums in an effort to keep some of our aircraft operational. That is simply stunning.

And readiness is so important these days given the serious threat posed by radical Islamic terrorism. Every morning, it seems we wake up to reports of another attack. Whether it is in Bangladesh, Baghdad, Istanbul, Kabul, Saudi Arabia, or right here in Orlando, or San Bernardino, these attacks just reinforce the fact that radical Islamic terrorism must be defeated.

The NDAA is also important because it is a great opportunity to put reforms in place at the Pentagon. Whether it is reducing bureaucratic obstacles, improving military health care, or updating the command structure, the NDAA is the perfect tool to ensure efficiency and effectiveness from the Pentagon.

So I hope my colleagues from both sides of the aisle will join me in voting to get us to conference so we can keep the streak alive of passing a strong NDAA each year.

The other portion of this rule provides for consideration of the conference report dealing with the opioid crisis.

I recently heard a story of a young man from southwest Alabama who suffered an injury playing sports. He was prescribed opioid-based pain medication by his doctor, but, unfortunately, he became addicted. Next thing he knew, his addiction had spiraled out of control and he found himself using heroin. Ultimately, he became seriously ill.

Thankfully, this young man was able to enter a treatment program and receive help, but not everyone who suffers from opioid addiction is so fortunate.

Studies show that approximately 46,000 Americans die because of a drug overdose each year. That number adds up to over 130 deaths a day. Tragically, young Americans are disproportionately impacted.

One of the worst things about opioid abuse is that it can start so innocently.

Whether it is a high school athlete who suffers an injury or an individual who undergoes a medical procedure as simple as dental work, no American is immune from this tragedy.

That is why this legislation is so very important. It authorizes new programs and reforms others to ensure that those struggling with opioid addiction can get the help that they need.

The bill includes new grants to States to carry out comprehensive opioid abuse responses with education, treatment, and recovery efforts, and prescription drug monitoring programs.

The bill also has multiple provisions dealing with prevention, including a new intergovernmental task force to identify, review, and, as appropriate, determine whether there are gaps or inconsistencies between best practices for chronic and acute pain management.

Treatment and recovery are also a priority, with reforms to multiple existing grant programs and a new grant program to provide grants to community organizations to develop, expand, and enhance recovery services and build connections between recovery networks, including physicians, the criminal justice system, and employers.

□ 1245

The bill also helps women, families, and veterans. This includes reauthorization of a grant program for residential treatment for pregnant and postpartum women who have an opioid abuse disorder and a new pilot program to enhance the flexibility of funds so States can more broadly support family-based services for pregnant and postpartum women and their children.

Moreover, this bill contains other commonsense reforms such as clarifying that pharmacists coordinating with a doctor and patient may not fill the entire amount of a prescription for a Schedule II substance, such as opioids.

Mr. Speaker, these are just some of the numerous and important pieces of this legislation. I am pleased to report that 200 different organizations from every corner of our country have already come out in support of this conference report.

Now, this bill probably doesn't do everything that every Member would like for it to do. In my time up here, I have yet to see a perfect bill. But this is a good bill, and I honestly doubt there is anything in this bill that my colleagues disagree with.

I understand some of my colleagues have concerns over funding, but let me remind my colleagues about the important distinction between appropriations and authorizing. This bill authorizes programs to address the opioid crisis. The Appropriations Committee has made clear that they are going to do everything that they can to provide funding for these programs, and I take them at their word. But putting funding in an authorization bill is not the proper way to address this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I worry we are seeing a larger issue here that started with the Zika virus legislation a few weeks ago. My colleagues on the other side demand action on issues, the process plays out, the House and Senate work together on legislation, and then my colleagues on the other side announce their opposition to very similar bills to the ones they previously supported.

Let's not forget that the House passed our opioid legislation by a vote of 400-5, and the Senate passed their bill by a vote of 94-1. Neither of those bills included funding. So it is stunning that now many of my colleagues on the other side say that they are going to oppose this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I worry that this is about politics instead of policy. I fear that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want an issue to debate on the campaign trail instead of actual solutions to the problems facing our country.

I sincerely hope that that is not the case because the American people deserve better than that. They can turn on their TVs every night and get enough political theater. But here in this body we should rise above that temptation and actually work on solutions.

The minority will not get everything they want. That is the nature of compromise, and that is the reality of being in the minority. But this has been a truly bipartisan process, and I hope it will not fall victim to political grandstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 809 and the underlying legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule today providing for consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017, a bill that the President has said he would veto, and the conference report to accompany S. 524, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016. Many of us support the underlying bill, but, unfortunately, it doesn't allow for—despite nine times having funding being waived—any funding to deal with defeating the cycle of addiction or the health issues around opioid abuse. So while it is an innocuous bill and might help a little bit, it is in no way commensurate with the challenge that families across our country face in dealing with opioid addiction.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule that would require the House to consider the bipartisan no fly, no buy legislation which would bar the sale of firearms and explosives to those on the FBI's terrorist watch list.

My amendment would not prevent the House from considering either of the underlying measures of this rule. It would simply give the House an oppor-

tunity to finally vote on keeping terrorists from assembling arsenals of weapons legally in our country.

Mr. Speaker, we can't wait any longer for Congress to take meaningful action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. Without question, the NDAA is a very important and serious bill. However, the bill before us today is one that the President has said he would veto. I have argued on this floor in an amendment that I supported a 1 percent cut to the authorization levels. By spending more on the military than we can afford as a country and plunging ourselves deeper into debt, we make ourselves less secure, not more secure. By making ourselves economically beholden to countries like China and Saudi Arabia, we are less secure rather than more secure. Frankly, this bill is more of the same, and if it passes and were to become law—which it won't because the President would veto it—it would also make it less secure.

But this rule and this day it is notable for what we are not doing rather than what we are doing. We are not under this rule considering two simple, plain, commonsense pieces of legislation that everybody knows will help protect American lives and prevent terrorist attacks in our Nation. One is simply to require a background check when a person obtains a gun. Another would prevent terrorists from assembling arsenals of weapons.

In my home State of Colorado, we already have universal background checks, and they have led to law enforcement arresting 114 fugitives since the beginning of the year.

It is our duty to simply vote on these bills that strengthen and enhance our Second Amendment rights by ensuring that law-abiding gun owners will continue to be able to purchase guns and keeping guns out of the hands of violent criminals and those who don't have the legal right to own them. Both of these bills do this, and each has over 100 cosponsors, including Members on both sides of the aisle.

As we stand here today, we are still reeling from the deadliest mass shooting in our country's history nearly 1 month ago. Pulse nightclub in Orlando was a targeted act of terror against the gay community, our allies, and the entire Nation.

In my home State of Colorado, we have been hard hit with mass shootings: Columbine, Aurora, and the Planned Parenthood center in Colorado Springs to name a few. It is time for action, and the simple, commonsense measures before us offer a good first step to ensure that we get that done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Xavier Arnold, a victim of gun violence who never ever received a moment of silence on the House floor.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentleman from California—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend for one moment.

The Chair would advise that all time has been yielded for the purpose of debate only.

Does the gentleman from Alabama yield for the purpose of this unanimous consent request?

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my earlier announcement that all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only, and I will not yield for any other purpose.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama does not yield; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Kelly Russler; Jayden, her son, and Laing, her son; victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request. She is a leader on the issue of reducing gun violence.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background check legislation to honor the memory of Serge Pierre Dumas, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. I ask the gentleman from Alabama: How many of us have to come down requesting this until you grant it?

Well, your silence speaks words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation in honor of the memory of my friend, Michele Love, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request. She is a leader on the issue of reducing gun violence.

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation in honor of Elizabeth Janie Woods, a victim of gun violence who never received a single moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Trooper Chad P. Dermeyer, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Jamie Wilson, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose; therefore, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Mr. Rayland "Ray Ray" Maryland, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many people we need to have more come down here until our request is granted?

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BYRNE. May I ask the Chair if I am on the time of the gentleman from Colorado in answering his question?

Mr. POLIS. You are. It is my time. I am yielding for an answer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is speaking on his time.

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, the parliamentary inquiry in his asking about the time should not be detracted from my time, so that, as well as this, need to be subtracted.

Now, we go back to my time, and I yield to the gentleman to ask him how many people we need to come down here so we can have our vote?

Mr. BYRNE. We are here today to consider—

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, that is not an answer. It is a simple question with a number.

I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Davon Jones, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Dajae Coleman from my district, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Keiwan Murray, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Dana Rhoden, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (MICHAEL F. DOYLE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Gino Nicholas, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I just received devastating news in a story that was just broken by Politico: House Republicans indefinitely delay gun control votes. They have indefinitely postponed a vote on the antiterrorism package leaving Congress with no legislative response to last month's massacre in Orlando.

□ 1300

I would hope that this new information will lead the gentleman from Alabama to consider this very important request from my colleague, Mr. HUFFMAN.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Tanya Skeen, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, given the new information that I entered, with regard to what has just broke a the Politico article, I think it would be important to hear from Mr. BYRNE again about whether he would entertain a unanimous consent request at this time, understanding his previous answer was no.

So I would like, Mr. Speaker, if you will, you to pose that question to him for consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman from Colorado yielding to the gentleman from Alabama?

Mr. POLIS. I am not yielding. I am asking the Chair to confirm that, in fact, his stated preference is still valid, and if he would ask the gentleman from Alabama if that is still the case.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is still the Chair's understanding that the gentleman from Alabama will not yield for such a request.

Therefore, the previous unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Delhaun Jackson, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK) for a unanimous consent request.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Diamond Dawson, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Hanna Rhoden and Christopher Roden, Sr., victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many people we need to have come down until the gentleman from Alabama would be willing to simply entertain a unanimous consent request to have the vote?

I understand that the gentleman from Alabama is opposed to the underlying measures. If a majority of the House is, so be it. But at least I would like to know how many requests we need to make until we can simply have this vote.

I am happy to yield to the gentleman from Alabama for an answer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair continues to understand that the gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for the purpose of these unanimous consent requests.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield the gentleman from Alabama from my time to ask how many more unanimous consent requests we need to have until we can have this vote.

Reclaiming my time, his silence continues to speak volumes, as does the silence of the Republican majority and the Speaker in the wake of an unprecedented wave of violence and terrorism in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Anpha Nguyen, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Andres Camacho, III, the son of a dear friend of mine and a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Chris Rhoden, Jr., a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Natalie, Sienna, and MJ Srinivasan with the shooter Jeremy Srinivasan, three victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Rheba Mae Dent, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Angelo Barboza, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) for a unanimous consent request.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of AJ Boik, the nephew of a friend of mine, Police Sergeant Dave Hoover, who was killed at the Aurora movie theater during the premier of the Batman movie.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Kenneth Rhoden, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Roosevelt Burns, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor. God bless Mr. Burns.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Lizzy Williams, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the minority whip, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation. I do so, Mr. Speaker, in honor of Shelly Williams, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire again of the gentleman from Alabama how many more requests we need to make until this very simple request is granted to allow us a vote on these bills.

I am happy to yield for an answer as to how many more people we need to request a vote on these bills.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, we are here today on House Resolution 809—

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, I am in control of the time. I yielded for an answer. The gentleman from Alabama didn't give it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives and prevent terrorism.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Roderick Nelms, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) for a unanimous consent request to prevent terrorist attacks in our country.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Recco Cobb, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Democratic leader, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Carolyn Ann Sanders, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, now that, in addition to so many rank-and-file Members having made this request, the Democratic leader and the Democratic whip have joined in this request personally and have come down here, I would like to ask the gentleman from Alabama if he would be willing to consider the unanimous consent request at this point.

I am happy to yield for an answer.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 809 is on the National Defense Authorization Act—

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, again, I think no matter how the gentleman from Alabama says it, the simple translation of that is: no, we won't consider that request.

So at this point, we have a very important request that would save lives and help prevent terrorist attacks in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for a unanimous consent request.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Devin Hamb, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), the vice chair of the Democratic Caucus, for a unanimous consent request.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Billie Jo, Courtney, and Collin Hettinger, victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the assistant Democratic leader, for a unanimous consent request to fight terrorism.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 3051, a bill that would close the Charleston loophole that allowed the assassination of Reverend Clementa C. Pinckney and eight of his parishioners.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request to save lives.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. First, the Chair will make an announcement.

As the Chair advised on January 15, 2014, and March 26, 2014, even though a unanimous consent request to consider a measure is not entertained, embellishments accompanying such a request constitute debate and will become an imposition on the time of the Member who yielded for that purpose.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear that the various speakers have not embellished to this point; is that correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has not deducted time to this point.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Laquan

McDonald, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Gladys Tordil, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

□ 1315

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) for a unanimous consent request to fight against terrorism and save lives.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Mike Dawid, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) for the purpose of a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Cora Wilson, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, that strikes close to home, I would say to Mrs. DAVIS. That is the name of my daughter as well, Cora; so that is particularly emotional to me as a father.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Alicia Norman, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up



H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Reid Williams, a victim of gun violence who never received his moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request to combat the terrorist threat to our country.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of Zanyrah Taylor, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many more motions for unanimous consent we need to make until it is granted and we, simply, allow an up-or-down vote on this issue?

Again, the silence speaks volumes not only from the gentleman from Alabama but from the Republican majority that continues to prevent a vote on these commonsense measures to reduce deaths and violence and terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Malcolm Winffel, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request. He is the chair of the Democratic Caucus.

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent—because it is more than just time for a moment of silence—that we bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Shannon Johnson, a victim of gun violence, who died during the mass shooting in San Bernardino, California, who never received a moment of silence on this House floor, to dignify the passing and the need to do something for him and his family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, which is the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation. I do so to honor the memory of Welland “Buddy” Short, a victim of gun violence who, himself, never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Gerardo Hernandez of Chatsworth, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Justin Michael Murray, from my district—a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Councilman James E. Davis, who was assassinated at the New York City Council on July 23, 2003, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor his memory.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request that would save lives and prevent terrorist attacks in our country.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jerome Wright, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jadarrion Spinks, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, given that not only have we had so many Members from across the country make this unanimous consent request but that they have been joined by every member of the Democratic leadership, I inquire of the gentleman from Alabama if he would be willing to entertain the next unanimous consent request that will be made shortly by the gentlewoman from California.

I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, we are here to speak on House Resolution 809, the National Defense Authorization Act.

Mr. POLIS. In reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ), who has a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives and prevent terrorist attacks.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. I thank my colleague from Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Kiara Kinard, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Mercy Cordova, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence here on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I point out, on my own time, that granting this request does not take away from considering the other two underlying bills. They, too, will be considered, but it simply means that these additional two bills to reduce gun violence, preventing terrorists from assembling arsenals legally in our own country, and making sure that convicted felons can't legally acquire firearms, are common sense. I think they

would pass this House fairly overwhelmingly.

We are simply saying, in addition to the bills that are already being considered—which some of us may personally be opposed to in the case of NDAA, but we are not standing in the way of those. We are simply allowing for the consideration of these additional bills.

Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request only, I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. ESTY).

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of Gary Rhoden, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) for a unanimous consent request that would prevent terrorists from assembling arsenals that they would use to cause harm to our fellow Americans.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Jones Pidcock, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I was truly hoping that the motion by Ms. TITUS would be accepted because, frankly, Ms. TITUS' unanimous consent request would have saved lives, prevented convicted felons from acquiring firearms and would have prevented people on the terrorist watch list from silently assembling arsenals for them to commit terrorist acts in our country.

While I am disappointed that Ms. TITUS' unanimous consent request was rejected out of hand, I yield to—and I am hopeful that the gentleman from Alabama will accept—the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Christopher Houston, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Alabama yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. BYRNE. I do not.

Mr. Speaker, I note for the record—

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the Chair to bring the House to order.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized on his own time.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I note for the record that the Member who just spoke has made the same unanimous consent request three times. I would also note that other Members have made the same unanimous consent requests multiple times, and the Chair has indicated that he cannot entertain that request.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, at some point, this ceases to be an effort to debate the issue before the House and, rather, becomes an effort to obstruct the House from completing its work.

I reserve the balance of my time.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, how is the gentleman from Alabama able to seize my time before I have even made my opening statement and simply speak on his own time while I control the time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair was alternating recognition between the minority manager and the majority manager. The gentleman from Alabama was recognized using his own time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, we have a gentleman with us here today from the great State of Missouri, who has a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives and prevent terrorists from doing harm to our fellow countrymen.

I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Michael Brown, one of my constituents and a victim of gun violence at the hands of a trigger happy policeman. Michael Brown never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman from Missouri will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

□ 1330

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out on my own time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. POLIS. The gentleman from Alabama mentioned the word "obstruction." And, Mr. Speaker, I would like you to consider—and, Mr. Speaker, I would like the American people to consider—who and which party is obstructing here when there is a very simple request for a vote that so many

Members of this body feel fervently about.

Those who stand in the way of that vote are those who are obstructing, not those who simply seek a vote to prevent terrorists from acquiring explosives and firearms.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jordan Croft, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Lana Carlson, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how long he plans to continue obstructing this body and preventing this body from going about its business to vote on these underlying bills by objecting to these very simple, common-sense, unanimous consent requests to prevent terrorists from acquiring explosives and firearms.

Again, the silence speaks volumes. It sounds like the Republicans and the gentleman from Alabama plan on continuing to obstruct this body from going about their business.

However, luckily, thanks to the gentlewoman from New Jersey, there is another chance for this body to accept a very important unanimous consent request.

I yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Tre Lane, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request to prevent terrorists from silently acquiring arsenals that they would kill our fellow Americans with.



Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation.

Here is Zina Daniel, who was murdered when her ex-husband bought a weapon from the Internet.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, we are joined by the ranking member of the Rules Committee, and I hope that my colleague from Alabama will be willing to grant her very important request that she is about to make that will prevent convicted felons from acquiring guns legally and also help keep explosives and weapons out of the hands of terrorists.

I am proud to yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) for a unanimous consent request.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Valerie Short, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) for the purpose of a critical and timely unanimous consent request.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, a bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of Kendrick Forrest, a victim of gun violence from my district who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, in the face of Republican obstructionism on this important issue, I am joined by a colleague from the great State of California. I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request in an attempt to break through this gridlock.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jerry Nguyen, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the

bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Simon Carrillo, a victim of gun violence who never received his moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, would that we run out of victims. Mr. Speaker, would that we run out of victims, but, tragically, that is not the case.

I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Davon Barrett, a victim of gun violence who never received his moment of silence here on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of two of my constituents: former Deputy Sheriff Rick Del Fiorentino and former Fort Bragg Councilman Jere Melo. They are both victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) who has a very important and timely unanimous consent request to prevent terrorists from acquiring arsenals to attack our fellow Americans.

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of Kenneth Cornelious Loggins, a victim of gun violence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) who has a very important and timely unanimous consent request that would save lives.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Joanne Woods, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Ala-

bama (Mr. BYRNE) how many more Members need to make this very simple request until it is a simple courtesy they agree to simply hold these votes.

I would be happy to yield for an answer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado yields to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, I hear nothing but silence.

Mr. BYRNE. Well, I thought he yielded to me for—

Mr. POLIS. Not to yield for an answer—absolutely. How many more—

Mr. BYRNE. Do you yield or not?

Mr. POLIS. I did. You were standing—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. BYRNE. You didn't allow me to say a word.

Mr. POLIS. How many more requests—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. POLIS. Do we need to make?

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, we are here to talk about House Resolution 809 that deals with the National Defense Authorization Act—

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. BYRNE. And an opioid bill and not anything else. And I—

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is out of order.

Mr. BYRNE. I can yield—

Mr. POLIS. The gentleman is out of order. I reclaim my time, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. POLIS. Yes. And yet the gentleman from Alabama continues to obstruct the consideration of those very underlying measures by not granting this simple request, this very simple request to consider these two bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, a bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Tony and Quinn Carlson, victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) who has a unanimous consent to break through this Republican obstruction and allow these bills to come forward.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of my constituent, Essence Christal, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House Floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) for the purpose of a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Cory James Connell, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HAHN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Reginald Williams, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request to prevent terrorists from acquiring explosives and firearms.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jean Carlos Nieves Rodriguez, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK) for the purpose of a timely, important, and critical unanimous consent request.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Claudina Molina, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) for a unanimous consent request to prevent convicted felons from legally acquiring firearms.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Officer Steven Todd Dooley, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor.

And, Mr. Speaker, I would like to know: What are you afraid of? Why won't you give Officer Dooley his time? What are you afraid of, Mr. Speaker? Bring the bill to the floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman will be subtracted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, would that we ran out of victims. Sadly, that is not the case.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Laseam Hogan from my district, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama: When will the Republican obstructionism end?

I am happy to yield for an answer.

Mr. BYRNE. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. DELAURO. I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Elton Wayne Madison, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

□ 1345

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent that would save lives and prevent convicted felons from acquiring weapons.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Mr. Tevin Eugene Crosby, who was a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor, unlike other victims in this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), my colleague on the Committee on Rules, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded back-

ground checks legislation, to honor the memory of Rigoberto Jose Castillo, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for a unanimous consent request.

Mrs. CAPPS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to please bring up H.R. 1217. It is a bipartisan bill, the expanded background checks legislation, and I am doing this today in honor of this beautiful young mother of 2 from Chicago, a victim of gun violence. She never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from California will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request only.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, hoping you will change your misinformed judgment, again, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Enedia Branch, a victim of gun violence who never received one moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jamar Small; Tamara, or Tammy, Wilson-Seidle; and both Cristina LoBrutto and Bryan Breen. These are Cristina and Bryan. They are four victims of gun violence from my district who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) for the purpose of a very important and timely unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Alison Parker, a victim of gun violence whose family wants more than a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of 5-year-old Aaron Shannon, Jr., a victim of gun violence shot down in his backyard, who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as someone with a background in law enforcement and someone who lives with the damaging effects of what guns can cause every day, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, also to honor the memory of Doris Dooley, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman from Rhode Island will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I wish that we had the time to adequately remember all of these victims like Doris Dooley and so many others, but given the limited time we have, I think our priority at this point is breaking through the Republican obstruction and achieving a simple up-or-down vote on these commonsense, bipartisan bills.

To that end, I yield to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Betty Mungin; her daughter, Alexis Mungin; her daughter, 8-year-old Armani Mungin, victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor. Enough is enough, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for a very important unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Javier Jorge-Reyes, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor. In his memory, we beg the Republican leadership,

please, let us have a vote on a bill that has been awaiting passage for years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from Ohio will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, we have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of Mr. KILDEE, and I am glad to say that he is not only here, but he has an excellent idea to break through this Republican obstruction and save lives.

I am honored to yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for a very important unanimous consent request.

Mr. KILDEE. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Cederrius Hastings, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the local hometown representative, the esteemed representative from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) who has a very important unanimous consent request.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Brishell Jones, who at 16, with her friends, was gunned down in a drive-by shooting, but who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many more unanimous consent requests we need to make until the Republicans stop this obstruction and allow the bill to come forward. I am happy to yield for an answer.

Mr. BYRNE. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Well, Mr. Speaker, you know, I think it is clear that we will not allow the Republicans to continue to obstruct these commonsense, bipartisan bills to prevent terrorists from assembling arsenals to kill our fellow Americans and to prevent convicted felons from legally acquiring firearms.

We are joined by a leader from New York, and I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan—that

means Democrats and Republicans—expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Jonathon Edwards, 22 years old, from Georgia. He was a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action here in the House of Representatives. He is deserving of that action, Mr. Speaker. Twenty-two years. No action. Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to act. The American people need for us to act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from New York will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for a very important unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, which would fall under the Committee on the Judiciary on which I serve as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, to honor the memory of Ronald McPhatter, a child of some mother and some father, and honor the memory of Ronald McPhatter, a victim of gun violence, who never received a moment of silence or action on this House floor. Ronald McPhatter needs justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from Texas will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to the floor to honor the memory of David Washington. David Washington is a victim of gun violence. He can't speak for himself anymore, and he never received a moment of silence or a moment of action on this House floor, but he deserves one.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman from New York will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WILSON) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request only that would save lives.

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Trayvon Martin from my district, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of

silence on this House floor. And to all the mothers of murdered children in Miami-Dade County and Broward County, I extend to them a moment of silence now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from Florida will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for the purpose of a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Leatrice Benjamin, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor, let alone a moment of action.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to call up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of 14-year-old Richard Newton from my district, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on this House floor, let alone a moment of action.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), who has a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond, murdered at the hands of a Mongol gang member. The silence has to stop. We need action. To honor his memory, I would like the House to take up this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from California will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, and this is to honor the memory of Carl Batie, a former Mercer County corrections officer who was an innocent bystander killed in a hail of gunfire in a gang-related fight in the city of Trenton in my district. I do this to

honor Mr. Batie, who was that victim, and I do this because he never received a moment of silence and he has never received a moment of action on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from New Jersey will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

□ 1400

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, the definition of obstruction in the dictionary is "a thing that impedes or prevents passage or progress; an obstacle or blockage."

The only obstruction here is the failure of the Republicans to simply remove that blockage or that thing that prevents passage of this commonsense measure to keep guns out of the hands of convicted felons and prevent terrorists from quietly assembling arsenals to conduct their terrorist acts.

I hope that, now that my colleague from New York (Mr. ENGEL) has joined us and he will be making a very important unanimous consent request in just moments, that will finally allow this body an opportunity to break through this obstruction, move to consideration of both bills under this rule, and move to consideration of the bipartisan bill that will prevent convicted felons from acquiring weapons.

I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of this brave soldier, Captain Antonio Davon Brown.

I also want to honor the memory of people in my district who were victims of gun violence: Brandon Lawrence, New Rochelle, New York; Charles Smith, Mount Vernon, New York; Wilbert Francis, Mount Vernon, New York; Kevin Shaw, Mount Vernon, New York; Allashun Clay, Mount Vernon, New York.

We want to honor their memories. They are all victims of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor. We ought to be passing sensible gun control legislation in a bipartisan fashion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentleman from New York will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington State (Ms. DELBENE) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request.

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Amanda Alvear, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) for the purpose of an important and timely unanimous consent request.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, bipartisan expanded background checks legislation. It is really to honor the memory of Paul Terrell Henry. He was a victim of gun violence in Orlando, who never received a moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY), who has a request that will break through this Republican obstruction and save lives, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Landon Dooley, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on this House floor.

Enough is enough. Put this commonsense legislation forward today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIBBLE). As previously announced the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. POLIS. Point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. It is a new Speaker pro tempore, and I was wondering if the new Speaker pro tempore would be willing to pose a unanimous consent request to the gentleman from Alabama.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has been informed that the gentleman from Alabama will not yield for the purpose of the gentleman's request.

Mr. POLIS. Very well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) who has a very important unanimous consent request.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Elbert L. Merrick, III, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many more unanimous consent requests we need to make until he agrees to allow for consideration of this bill.

I am happy to yield for an answer.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Sadly, the gentleman from Alabama is unable to reserve or stop criminals from legally acquiring weapons or terrorists from silently assembling arsenals to conduct terrorist acts in our country. The only way the gentleman from Alabama can prevent those acts is to prevent the obstruction of this body by granting this very simple unanimous consent request that is about to be made by the gentleman from Florida.

I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Stanley Almodovar, III, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK) for the purpose of a very important and timely unanimous consent request.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation to honor the memory of Lori Dooley and Brooke Dooley, a mother and daughter, victims of gun violence who never received legislative action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for the purpose of an important unanimous consent request to save lives.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Eugene Liscomb, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence and never received a moment of action on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Eric Ivan Ortiz Rivera, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence or who never received any action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Luis Vielma, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that will save lives.

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Brenda Lee Marquez McCool, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of action on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Alabama how many more requests we need to make until the Republicans stop their obstructionism and allow a simple vote on the bill.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. PERLMUTTER) for the purpose of a very important unanimous consent request that would save lives.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I thank my friend from Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Daniel Mauser. He is a young man who was a victim of gun violence at Columbine High School and was the son of a friend of mine, Tom Mauser.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, in a just-breaking Politico article, it says that House leader infighting has forced GOP leaders to indefinitely postpone a vote on an antiterrorism package.

You know, I don't know who is going to tell the terrorists that we are postponing a vote on an antiterrorism package. I would hope that the Republicans would join us Democrats in trying to prevent terrorists from quietly assembling arsenals of explosives and guns and weapons to conduct coordinated attacks on the people of our country—that is what we are hoping to do—and break through this Republican obstructionism on this issue.

Hopefully, there will be a new, breaking story based on the acceptance of a unanimous consent request that is forthcoming from my colleague from Ohio.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R.

1217, the bipartisan King-Thompson expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Juan Ramon Guerrero, a victim of gun violence who never received either a moment of silence or a moment of action on this House floor. We ask Speaker RYAN to allow the vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, in honor of the memory of Darryl R. Burt, II, yet another Black man who lost his life to senseless violence. He never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from California will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. POLIS. Point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. The Chair has stated the last several times that the unanimous consent requests cannot be received. Is it that it cannot be accepted or that it is willfully not accepted by the gentleman from Alabama?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time has been yielded for the purpose of debate.

Mr. POLIS. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. When a unanimous consent request is made, is it not at the discretion of the gentleman controlling the time, the gentleman from Alabama, to agree to that request?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama has yielded time for debate only.

Mr. POLIS. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Can the gentleman from Alabama accept a unanimous consent request to yield for the purpose of a bill being brought forth?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama has not yielded for that purpose.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Does the gentleman from Alabama have the ability to yield for that purpose?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama has control of the time on his side.

Mr. POLIS. Reclaiming my time, again, the gentleman from Alabama can agree to these unanimous consent requests. The way that the answer has been framed, he has not agreed to them.

The gentleman from Alabama and the Republicans are obstructing this body and preventing us from going about our business and getting to these bills, but it is certainly well within the authority under this rule for a unanimous consent request to be accepted.

With that, I am actually glad to say we have a unanimous consent.

I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

□ 1415

Mrs. CAPPS. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217. It is a bipartisan piece of legislation called the expanded background checks bill, and I do so today in honor of a particular person who was a victim in the Orlando massacre. Her name is Mercedes Marisol Flores, a young woman who has never received her own moment of silence on this House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

The time of the gentlewoman from California will be deducted from the gentleman from Colorado's time.

Mr. POLIS. Well, Mr. Speaker, they could be entertained, if the gentleman from Alabama would simply agree to them.

We actually have a forthcoming unanimous consent request. I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that you are willing to pose it to the gentleman from Alabama to see if he would, in fact, agree to what I think is a very reasonable request, to bring forward a bipartisan bill.

I am glad to yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for the purpose of just such a unanimous consent request.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. I thank my colleague for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Edward Sotomayor, Jr., a victim of gun violence in Orlando at the Pulse Nightclub who never, ever has received a moment of action on this floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, would the Chair be willing to pose the question as to whether that unanimous consent request is accepted to the gentleman controlling the time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands that the gentleman from Alabama will not yield for any such request.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, again, I know that the previous Speaker pro tempore had posed that question some time ago; but I was hoping, by this point, the gentleman from Alabama would have been moved to change his position.

I am not going to ask every single time, but I would appreciate if the Chair would pose that question to the gentleman from Alabama about whether he would be willing to accept the most recent unanimous consent request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) to save lives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado may yield to the gentleman from Alabama for a response.

Mr. POLIS. I would be happy to yield if the gentleman from Alabama would be willing to accept the unanimous consent request from Mrs. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN.

Mr. BYRNE. All time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I will take that as no. And, sadly, we are not about to run out of victims, Mr. Speaker.

I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Democratic leader.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 1 minute.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background check legislation, to honor, once again, the memory of Carolyn Ann Sanders, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 1217, the bipartisan expanded background checks legislation, to honor the memory of Eddie Jamoldroy Justice, a victim of gun violence who never received a moment of silence on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As previously announced, the unanimous consent request cannot be entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, so many of us have made unanimous consent requests.

I have asked the gentleman from Alabama how many times we have to make this motion until the Republicans end their obstructionism. I have not received an adequate answer.

I was hopeful that the gentleman from Alabama would have accepted this unanimous consent request by now.

I was hopeful that the Chair would have posed a question to him multiple times, rather than accept his very first

answer, now that the Democratic leaders and rank-and-file Members have all come forward in support of bringing forward this bill and breaking through the Republican obstructionism.

I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, we have been trying all day to convince the Republican leadership to bring up H.R. 1217. The reason being is that, for the last 3½ years, we have been trying to get a vote on this bipartisan, pro-Second Amendment bill. And in the course of those 3½ years, 34,000 people have been killed in our country by someone using a gun; 34,000. That is someone's child, someone's brother, someone's loved one, someone's wife, someone's husband, someone's partner; and it is absolutely shameful.

Now we heard yesterday on the steps of the Capitol a terrifying story from a woman whose 10-year-old daughter was murdered by someone with a gun, someone who couldn't legally buy a gun because he couldn't pass a background check. He was a felon. But he got around that law because he went online. He found the same gun that you could buy in a gun store online but without the requirement to pass a background check. He bought that gun. He shot that brave woman, and he murdered her daughter.

We can take a step today to do something about that. We can bring up the background check bill. It is bipartisan, pro-Second Amendment. It has 186 co-authors in this House. We can bring it up for a vote, and we can pass it. That will provide the first line of defense against people who shouldn't be able to buy guns from buying guns.

Who are these people? Criminals, domestic abusers, terrorists, those who are dangerously mentally ill. They should not be able to get their hands on a gun.

Now, can we stop it in every instance? No. But we know that background checks work. We know that we can make a real difference.

Every day, every day in the United States of America, 170 felons are stopped from buying guns because of the background check program. Every day in the United States of America, 50 domestic abusers are stopped from buying a gun because of the background check system. It works. We know it works.

Why won't we bring that bill up for a vote?

That woman stood on the steps of the Capitol yesterday. That was a courageous stand she took. She lost her daughter. She watched her daughter be murdered right in front of her eyes. She, herself, was shot. But she is out advocating for sensible, pro-Second Amendment, reasonable gun laws that will protect people. That is brave.

What is brave about avoiding a vote on this bill, a bipartisan bill, a bill that



supports the Second Amendment, a bill that has both Democrats and Republicans as coauthors: 186 coauthors, a background check bill, perfectly constitutional, perfectly reasonable, supported by gun owners, both Democrats and Republicans, supported by 90 percent of the American people.

Ninety percent of the people that we collectively represent are asking us: Do something about this tragedy that is taking place over 30 times a day in the streets of America. Ninety percent. That is unbelievable support.

And what has the Republican leadership done? Nothing.

Thirty-four thousand deaths in the last 3½ years that we have been trying to take up this bill; 1,182 mass shootings since we have tried to take up this bill; 30 moments of silence on the floor of this House; zero, zero votes to protect the people that we represent; zero votes to do anything regarding responsible, Second Amendment gun laws that will protect the people that we represent.

Mr. Speaker, we are not asking for a lot. We are asking for a vote. We know that background checks work. Your side knows it, and our side know it.

One of the previous speakers on the underlying bill today said: It is time to put politics aside and look at the policy.

What in the world is going on with background checks? The policy is solid. They work. One hundred and seventy felons a day are stopped from getting a gun because of background checks. Fifty domestic abusers a day are stopped from getting a gun because of background checks.

It sounds like pretty solid policy to me, Mr. Speaker. It must be the politics on the other side that are getting in the way. And the American people do not want that to continue.

Ninety percent of the people who we represent are with us. They say that criminals, terrorists, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill should not be able to get guns and that the men and women who they send to the Congress of the United States of America should take responsible action to stop that from happening.

Please, give us a vote on the background check bill. Help keep our constituents safe.

Mr. POLIS. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

We are here on House Resolution 809. House Resolution 809 deals with two underlying bills. The first one is a conference report related to efforts to combat the opioid crisis that is wreaking havoc in communities across the United States. 46,000 people die—

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a point of parliamentary procedure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from Alabama yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. BYRNE. I do not.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. I am not asking the gentleman to yield.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking you for a point of parliamentary procedure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is under recognition. The gentleman from California may not make a parliamentary inquiry unless yielded to for that purpose.

The gentleman from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. BYRNE. As I was saying, 46,000 people die every year of drug overdose. That is one of the things that is covered in the bills that are underlying in this resolution, and we just had over 2 hours of obstruction to try to keep us from considering that bill.

The resolution also contains the effort to get us to a conference on the National Defense Authorization Act, which is the policy that defends the United States of America. If we want to keep terrorists from murdering people in the United States, we need to defeat them over there so that they don't come over here.

I would ask everybody in this House to get back focused on what this resolution is about: trying to save people who are tragically dying from drug overdose and protecting the people of the United States of America, the number one thing that we in this Congress are here to do.

So I am glad that we are back to that because that is important business for this House.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 809 and the underlying bill.

The material previously referred to by Mr. POLIS is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 809 OFFERED BY  
MR. POLIS OF COLORADO

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1076) to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny the transfer of a firearm or the issuance of firearms or explosives licenses to a known or suspected dangerous terrorist. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 1076.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308-311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

The Republican majority may say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution. . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: "Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule. . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment."

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

# FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 5485, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 794 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5485.

Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RIBBLE) kindly take the chair.

□ 1439

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5485) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, with Mr. RIBBLE (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, July 7, 2016, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 25, printed in House Report 114-639, offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) had been postponed.

## AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MR. DUFFY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 26 printed in House Report 114-639.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_ None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce a new regulatory action for which the aggregate costs of State, local, and tribal government compliance or private sector compliance, as estimated under section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform

Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1532), will be \$100,000,000 or more.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 794, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment that deals with an issue that quite often comes up on this floor. It is an issue about regulation and overregulation. What this amendment would do is prohibit the administration from using any of these funds to implement a rule that would cost the economy \$100 million more. This is kind of like the REINS Act, but the rule doesn't come back for a vote; it is just prohibited.

The reason is there have been so many new rules and regulations that our economy is having a hard time keeping up. Just last year alone, there were 3,400 new rules—administrative rules, not from Congress, but these are from agencies. There were 80,000-plus pages of rules and regulations last year alone, and over half a million regulation pages over this President's administration.

This is having a real impact on the American economy. We have businesses that are having a more difficult time accessing loans to expand their businesses, to grow their innovation, to invest in innovation and create good-paying jobs within our communities. We have an increased cost of financing business expansions and home financing because of the compliance cost of our whole financial sector.

The costs have increased so much because the rules are now so complex and so many that it is trickling down to the business community and to our families. It is impacting our economy.

So I think it is time. At least right now, for a year, in this funding bill, let's take a pause. Let's just take a break on all the regulation. Let's stop, let's review, and then we can have a discussion about how we move forward. But this is a pause on the big regulation.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is a surprise to the gentleman that we still have 6 months to go in this Congress and in this administration.

This amendment would limit the administration's ability to propose or finalize important rules or regulations.

The administration issues rules because Congress has conveyed a specific responsibility to them. Rather than enact every contingency into law, we rely on public comment and technical advice to make sure the laws are implemented efficiently.

Taking a myopic view of our Nation's regulatory practices is nothing new for the majority. Time and time again we have seen appropriations riders and authorizing legislation that only looks at the costs associated with agency rules and completely ignores the associated benefits. This amendment is no different.

These proposals overlook the extensive review process that already exists for rules. For example, every new rule is already scrutinized up and down by numerous Federal agencies as well as key stakeholders and the public. For economically significant rules, an agency must provide the Office of Management and Budget with an assessment and, to the extent possible, a quantification of the benefits and costs of the proposed rule.

In accordance with Executive Order 12866, the agency has to justify the costs associated with the rule, and these costs are justified with benefits—something this amendment appears to think don't exist. But that is just false. For example, in its 2015 analysis of the estimated cost and benefits of significant Federal regulations, OMB estimated that, over the last decade, the benefits of these rules outweighed the economic costs by up to 9 to 1.

This amendment would upend years of precedent and could prohibit agencies from revising rules and regulations in response to changes in technology, the economy, or public demand.

Republicans should stop trying to undermine the rulemaking process and should stop ignoring the real-world benefits of these rules to society.

Mr. Chairman, I oppose this amendment very strongly, and I urge a "nay" vote.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1445

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), our chairman.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in support of this, and thank the gentleman for bringing this before the House.

We have an administration that just loves to regulate. They love to regulate. They have rules for everything. They have no regard for the cost of the regulations. Small businesses, governments, and States are all hard pressed to do all this stuff. The administration tries to sidestep us by going through executive orders and Presidential memorandums.

All this amendment does is force the administration to seek congressional approval on the most significant of the new regulations.

It is a great amendment, and I urge all the Members to support it.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Chairman, I find it interesting that my good friend across the aisle talks about the great review process that we have by Federal agencies. These are the faceless, nameless