

our entire country more just and safer for Black Americans and every American.

PASS BIPARTISAN LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I have spoken out against racism from this floor before, but under the present regrettable circumstances, I feel compelled to do so again.

All of us are created in the image of God and are of equal and inestimable moral worth—all of us. There are no exceptions. Both St. Peter and St. Paul spoke out against prejudice. Our Declaration of Independence states plainly that we are all created equal. Our laws require equality of treatment and opportunity.

It is a fact that we betrayed this ideal when our country was founded when we tolerated slavery, an immoral human practice, which in this country was carried out by Whites against Blacks. It took nearly 90 years after our founding to erase this blot when we passed the 13th Amendment. It also took a civil war, which cost 600,000 lives.

Even then, we didn't grant Black people true equality. For the next 100 years, they endured Jim Crow laws in the South, de facto segregation in the rest of the country, violence, and inequality in everything from schools to jobs.

They had to win equality for themselves by bravely marching, protesting, and using every peaceful method they could find in the civil rights movement. They gradually won key court cases. And, finally, this House and the Senate passed the 1964 Civil Rights Act and, in 1965, the Voting Rights Act.

But laws don't change hearts, and we are still walking the path toward ridding this Nation of the scourge of racism. As I have watched COVID work its will in my district, I have been distraught to see the disproportionate effect on the health and lives of the one-third of my constituents who are Black—on Black workers and business owners who suddenly, and through no fault of their own, lost their jobs and their businesses, and on Black children who lost months of their education, which they badly need.

The chief of police in Mobile, the urban center of my district, is Lawrence Battiste, a 27-year veteran of law enforcement and, yes, a Black man. We had a Sunday afternoon of protests a few weeks ago, and I watched as he and the officers under his direction carried out their duties with professionalism and character.

“Character.” I use that word because it is so important right now and because I have long admired Dr. King's statement that we shouldn't be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character.

I am proud of Chief Battiste and his officers, but they aren't the only professionals performing their duties under extraordinarily difficult circumstances and with character. There are many, many law enforcement officers around this country who are truly public servants, and they deserve our respect and our support.

We, in this House, can disagree on the appropriate policies to pursue to achieve justice and right the wrong of continuing inequality. But there is no disagreement that racism is wrong, is morally repugnant. There is also no disagreement that doing nothing in the face of continuing racism isn't acceptable.

We, in this House, need to work together, not in parallel partisan efforts. This House came together to pass the CARES Act earlier this year. Surely, we can come together to pass meaningful and bipartisan law enforcement reform legislation that will actually go to the President and become law.

I wish we would address more funding for community health centers so poor people, and especially people of color, would have better access to primary care, which would help equalize health outcomes. I also wish we would take up education choice legislation, like Education Freedom Scholarships so that minority children have the same opportunities for a quality education as their peers from families with the means to pay for better schools.

We are capable of so much more in this country, but only if we remember the one stated purpose of our Constitution is to create a more perfect union. That is not a one-and-done thing; it is a generation-after-generation thing.

It is time to unite in this body and do the hard work of this generation. Let's do it for the Lawrence Battistes out there. Let's do it for our children and grandchildren. And let's do it because that will reveal the content of our national character, which is far more important than the color of our skin.

CALLING FOR DEPARTMENT TO ADDRESS RACISM

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, and I rise because I love my country.

I rise because the winds of change are blowing across America. The winds of change are blowing through this House of Representatives. There will be changes in this House, and these changes are taking place because we are not respecting the will of the people. The people are speaking to us, and we must listen. The winds of change are blowing.

We have an opportunity to do more than talk about invidious discrimination. We have an opportunity to do more than talk about racism. We have an opportunity to do something that can change the course of history.

H. Res. 992 addresses the change that we need.

To my dear brother who just spoke, I would have you sign on to H. Res. 992. It would provide a department of reconciliation. Yes, the Emancipation Proclamation was not a declaration of reconciliation. It is time for us to reconcile.

We have survived slavery, but we didn't reconcile. We have survived Jim Crow's laws and Bull Connor's dogs, but we didn't reconcile. It is time to reconcile.

All the commissions are fine, and I support them, but a department that reports directly to the President of the United States of America is in order. We need a secretary of reconciliation, someone who wakes up every morning with his mission of reconciling by way of developing a strategy and implementing a strategy to eliminate racial segregation as it exists in many places still, but racism, more specifically, and invidious discrimination.

Every day, invidious discrimination and racism will be addressed. This is the means by which we can also get updates on progress.

We can institutionalize a methodology by which we can realize true racial reform in this country, racial equity, as it were. This department would have as its mission to eliminate discrimination against all the protected classes. The secretary of reconciliation will report to Congress twice a year and explain the progress that is being made, or lack thereof.

This department would be funded with a minimum of 10 percent, or the equivalent of 10 percent of what the Defense Department's budget is, a minimum of 10 percent of the equivalent of the Defense Department's budget. We know that the Defense Department's budget will be funded; that means that the department of reconciliation will be funded.

Those who do not recognize the winds of change, those who believe that we can go back to bigotry as usual, you are mistaken. This resolution is a means by which we can send a message to all Americans that we understand that the time has come for change. Now is the time to bring about the change by way of a department of reconciliation.

I close with this. We don't have to listen, but I guarantee you we will feel the effects of not listening. The winds of change are blowing through this House of Representatives.

□ 0915

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FREDERICK DEL BUONO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of a true American, Frederick Del Buono, who

was born on July 4, 1940, in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Fred attended trade school, and after completing his education, he entered the United States Navy in 1961. After boot camp, Fred was assigned to the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the *USS Enterprise*, where it was ultimately deployed to Vietnam. During Frederick's time aboard the carrier, the ship crossed the equator, where he joined King Neptune's motley crew, making him an official Shellback.

Fred was honorably discharged in 1965 and continued to serve his country by joining the Navy Reserves. After 30 years of service in the United States Navy, Fred retired from the Navy Reserve Readiness Command on March 1, 1994.

Fred's work career as a civilian began with being hired by the U.S. Post Office, where he was a tractor-trailer operator for over 21 years. Fred and his family moved to Rock Hill, South Carolina, in 2007, where he joined the esteemed group of patriots known as the Rolling Thunder Chapter 1, where he served as chairman of the board for over 10 years. This group of men and women offer comfort and aid to local veterans and their families as they become integrated into their respective communities.

Fred has continued his service by becoming a member of the American Legion Post 34, where he has served as chairman of the board for the last 10 years.

Fred Del Buono is a shining example of the motto "Service Above Self," and his willingness to help others will long be remembered for many years to come.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 7120, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

Enough is enough. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Too many of our neighbors have died at the hands of law enforcement. Valuable people, beloved people, people who were siblings and coworkers and parishioners, members of our communities, parents, children, grandchildren are now hashtags. They are household names who would have all traded that fame for just one more day, one more day with their friends, their families and loved ones.

Across this country we have learned too many names, but not as many people know their ages.

Walter Scott was 50. Tony McDade was 38. Alton Sterling was 37. Philando Castile was 32. Sandra Bland was 28. Breonna Taylor was 26. Botham Jean was 26. Freddie Gray was 25. Ahmaud Arbery was 25. Stephon Clark was 22. Michael Brown was 18. Laquan McDon-

ald was 17. Tamir Rice was 12. Aiyana Stanley-Jones was just 7.

In Mecklenburg County in my district, we have too many names, over 50 since the year 2000, people of every race and background. Keith Lamont Scott was 43. Reuben Galindo was 29. Danquires Franklin was 27. Clay McCall was 26. Jonathan Ferrell was 24. Darryl Turner was 17. Laquan Brown was 16.

Since January 1, 2015, at least 155 people have been shot and killed by police in my home State of North Carolina, and at least 5,428 people have been shot and killed by police across the United States.

David McAtee, 53, was killed by the Kentucky National Guard while protesting these injustices. Eric Garner, 43, and George Floyd, 46, were put in chokeholds. They begged they couldn't breathe.

Imagine how many of these killings didn't have to happen. Imagine how many years of life we could give back to these men, women, and children. Imagine what God will say to us on judgment day if we fail to act.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act is a first step to righting these wrongs. Importantly, the bill bans chokeholds so that a death like George Floyd's or Eric Garner's never has to happen again.

Additionally, it will force police departments nationwide to reexamine the use of chemical agents like tear gas, bringing us closer to a day when protestors exercising their constitutional right won't choke, both figuratively and literally, on injustice.

It was a tragedy that George Floyd will, in the words of Roxie Washington, never get to walk his daughter down the aisle. But like their 6-year-old daughter, Gianna, said, "Daddy changed the world."

So let's do right by Gianna. Let's make good on her promise of change, and let's pass the Justice in Policing Act. Let's pass it today.

RECOGNIZING CHUCK BROADWAY

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Clermont's police chief, Chuck Broadway, for his appointment to an important subcommittee of the Florida Police Chiefs Association.

The Subcommittee on Accountability and Societal Change aims to rebuild trust between law enforcement and communities through increased consistency, accountability, and transparency, and I know Chief Broadway will represent our district well.

As a proud supporter of law enforcement across our district and Nation, I believe it is now more important than ever to have these conversations and to bring unity and safety where fractures have emerged. That was a priority for me as a Florida State representative, and it remains a critical need today.

Each time I interact with those on the front lines, whether it is law enforcement or fire and medical personnel, I am reminded that it is because of their sacrifice that our communities live in harmony. I am grateful for those who protect, and I commend Chief Broadway for his leadership and his vision. Chief Broadway's contributions to this new group will be invaluable, just as his 24 years of service already have been.

DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud Representative of Florida's 15th District to defend the rights of the unborn.

For entirely too long, our Nation has turned deaf ears and cold hearts to the most vulnerable among us. Since Roe v. Wade was enacted nearly 50 years ago, over 61 million Americans have been aborted. That is 61 million lives that will never be.

This month, I was proud to fight for the inclusion of Hyde Amendment protections in any Federal funding or tax credits that may be used to address the healthcare needs of unemployed Americans.

I also fought against Planned Parenthood and their improper application for Paycheck Protection Program funds, as well as their despicable sale of aborted body parts and fetal tissue.

This modern-day genocide must end. That is why I am proud to support President Trump's appointment of pro-life Justices to the Supreme Court, and I look forward to the day where we can finally put this atrocity behind us.

AMERICA MUST HOLD CHINA ACCOUNTABLE

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the millions in our country demanding that the communist Chinese Government be held accountable for its deception regarding the coronavirus, COVID-19. China lied and Americans died. It is really that simple.

For too long, our own national leaders have looked the other way as China has taken advantage of American ingenuity and naivete. They have continually countered our interests around the world, and it is our companies and our citizens that have paid the price.

China intentionally mislead the international community about what it knew regarding the deadliest pandemic our world has seen in over 100 years. COVID-19 has since caused the deaths of over 100,000 Americans and over 9 million people worldwide.

China's complicity in this crisis has, likewise, brought ruin to economies around the globe while increasing their relative advantage, and for this they must answer. I have introduced and joined numerous legislative initiatives to do just that, and I ask my colleagues to join me to do the same.

China must and will be held accountable.

IN SUPPORT OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our rights