

□ 1015

We are here to say enough is enough. Extremist Republicans around the country created this reproductive healthcare crisis against the will of the people with their out-of-touch, anti-choice agenda.

People should have the right to make decisions over their own bodies, especially healthcare decisions, not this body, nor politicians, nor Justices. That process has been now aided and enabled by Republicans in this Chamber, so it is time for some accountability right here and right now. Time to put our Speaker and the Members of his party on the record in front of their constituents. It is time, really, to restore the right to abortion.

One year after the fall of Roe, we refuse to back down from the fight for reproductive freedom.

Our bodies, our choices. That is what this, in essence, is about: freedom. We are here using every single tool at our disposal to force action on this issue.

I am proud to join with our fellow Pro-Choice Caucus leaders, our membership, Representative DIANA DEGETTE and Representative JUDY CHU, in leading this discharge petition on the Women's Health Protection Act and demanding that the Speaker let us vote.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to sign it.

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU), the author of the Women's Health Protection Act.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, it has been a year since the Supreme Court ripped away the rights of millions of Americans in an instant by overturning the constitutional right to abortion care. It has been nearly 1 year since American women were forced to live in a country where they possessed fewer rights than their grandmothers.

House Republicans are out of step with the American people when it comes to abortion access, but instead of working to restore these fundamental freedoms, they have worked to further restrict abortion access in this country. That is why we are here today, to take action.

I am proud to present this discharge petition to force accountability for Republican inaction.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

CONGRATULATING DICK JAMES

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dick James of St. Simon's Island on his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Mr. James served in the Army for 22 years, including two tours of duty in Vietnam and retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel.

In his first tour, he acted as an adviser for a Vietnamese battalion with 750 soldiers. This battalion suffered a high casualty rate, with two-thirds being lost in the 9½ months he served with them. He later returned to Vietnam as the commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, where he fearlessly led his Rangers in 450 missions, with 229 of them being fights with enemy troops.

Mr. James has been the rightful recipient of many awards, including four Bronze Star medals, a Vietnam Service Medal, Superior Service Medal, and a National Defense Service Medal, among many others.

I thank Mr. James for his service and congratulate him for his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame. His extraordinary dedication to his country and his fellow Rangers makes him the perfect addition.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF STARLING SUTTON

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the legacy of Mr. Starling Sutton, a dedicated servant to his country and a community activist.

During the Vietnam war, Starling cross-trained in four different areas, airborne, special forces medic, combat engineer, and infantry officer.

His work in the Army's 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg led him to pursue a degree in criminal justice, which he then applied to professional and volunteer efforts devoted to helping homeless and marginalized people.

Mr. Sutton created two programs for the Atlanta Rotary Club to help inner-city youth learn about the camaraderie of the military, and his work with the Golden Isles Rotary helped homeless veterans find homes.

Professionally, he helped create affordable housing in Atlanta and converted two major warehouses into public art spaces.

Starling's service to our country and his impact on our State will continue to be felt for years to come, and we mourn his loss immensely.

CONGRATULATING GLYNN ACADEMY BOYS AND GIRLS GOLF TEAMS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Glynn Academy boys and girls golf teams on their recent 6A State Championship wins.

Both teams took a big lead on day one, and they never looked back. After day one, they had to fight through harsh weather conditions that plagued the rest of the tournament, but even that could not derail their efforts.

The Glynn Academy boys shot an impressive score of 591 overall to secure their first win since 2001. The Glynn Academy girls finished with a score of 480 to win their second championship in a row.

These impressive scores, and the fact that this is the second championship in a row for the girls, speaks volumes. These young adults are true athletes, and I am inspired by their amazing performance on the golf course.

I look forward to seeing what these great teams do in the coming season, and I know they will continue to make the First District of Georgia proud.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE ALLEN TINDLE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of retired Lieutenant Colonel George Allen Tindle of the U.S. Army National Guard.

Mr. Tindle was born in Chicago, Illinois, on September 12, 1941. He was a proud member of the Chicago Police Department for 10 years, until he transferred to the Federal Protective Service in 1974, right here in Washington, D.C.

George began his career at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, in 1986. He was the Director of Management Training for U.S. Customs until his retirement in 1999. After his retirement, George began his favorite career as an instructor in the Behavioral Sciences Division.

George was an avid fan of the FredERICA Academy football team and a beloved member of the Community Church on St. Simons Island.

George was an animal lover with a quick wit and a compassionate heart.

George Tindle passed away on April 3, 2023, at the age of 81 in Brunswick, Georgia. He is survived by a son, a nephew, and nieces, along with the legacy he left behind in the Brunswick community.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEAN). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, firearms are now the leading cause of death for our children in the United States. This is the reality that we are living with, and it is one that we should refuse to accept.

Every day, over 100 Americans are killed from gun violence and more than 200 people are shot and wounded. These are not just statistics, Mr. Speaker, they are human beings with lives and futures, with mothers, friends and loved ones.

It is sickening that the NRA and the gun lobby have bankrolled many of my colleagues in this Chamber into silence and inaction on this issue.

Many of these deaths involve the accidental discharge of a firearm, often by a child, including a number of recent tragic incidents in southeastern Michigan. Just this month, there was a horrific incident where a 2-year-old gained access to an unsecured gun and was tragically killed.

It is alarming that 4.6 million children in our country live in homes with loaded and unlocked firearms.

This is Gun Violence Awareness Month, and I am proud to introduce the Safe Storage Saves Lives Act with

colleagues like ROSA DELAURO, MAX FROST, and ROBIN KELLY to reduce firearm deaths among our children.

This legislation requires every firearms seller to provide a gun lock or a gun safety device every single time that a firearm is sold in the United States.

Far too often, Mr. Speaker, gun owners fail to properly secure their weapons with tragic consequences leading to accidental deaths, preventable suicides, and on several occasions, school shootings and other mass violence.

These deaths are preventable through proper gun storage and safety. When used correctly, a gun lock or secure gun storage or safety device makes it impossible for the gun to be fired.

Gun locks, Mr. Speaker, like this one, have already saved countless lives, and requiring their use is key to combating America's gun violence crisis.

This bill does work in tandem with Representative DELAURO's Ethan's Law, which mandates safe storage, requiring gun owners to secure their firearms in their home.

However, this crisis must be tackled with even more urgency because our children's lives depend on it.

Madam Speaker, this gun lock was \$10 and \$10 could save the life of a child.

These gun locks are a commonsense solution that every Member of this body should support. This should not be controversial. Keeping firearms out of the hands of our children should not be a partisan issue.

I will not stop fighting until Congress finally takes action to end the gun violence epidemic in our country. We must honor the lives of those killed with action.

Our communities deserve better, Mr. Speaker. Our families deserve better, and our kids deserve so much more than prayers.

HONORING SERGIO MARTINEZ

Ms. TLAI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to uplift one of my LGBTQ+ neighbors. His name is Sergio Martinez.

During this Pride Month, I recognize Sergio's activism and leadership in the immigrant rights movement in Detroit.

Sergio is an inspiring DACA recipient. He came here at 5 years old, but that didn't stop him from giving back to the community.

He grew up proudly in southwest Detroit and serves on the board of Michigan United, leading the Detroit Immigrants Rights Organizing Committee. He is a passionate advocate for legal protection of our undocumented neighbors and a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers, TPS holders, farmworkers and essential workers.

Sergio also believes that housing is a human right and was recently appointed to the new statewide housing advisory board by Governor Whitmer.

This Pride Month, join me in honoring Sergio Martinez, a trailblazing LGBTQ+ leader in our community. We thank him for his commitment in ad-

vancing equality and justice in Detroit and across Michigan.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PLAN

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the administration's egregious student loan forgiveness plan.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, this unauthorized handout will cost the taxpayers an estimated \$400 billion over the next decade. That means that everyday, hardworking Americans who either choose not to attend college or who have paid their loans will be on the hook for the financial decisions of others.

Tell me: Does that sound like a fair shake for the American taxpayer? Of course not.

Additionally, it is not even clear if the President has the authority to do this because, you see, he hijacked a law meant to help veterans, veterans who had served their country following 9/11 just to justify this unprecedented bailout.

But I tell you what: House Republicans are standing up to this administration's unreasonable and irresponsible policies. That is why a few weeks ago, the House passed a bipartisan resolution to block the administration's student loan forgiveness plan from even taking effect.

Our colleagues in the Senate, well, they resoundingly agreed with us by sending this to the President's desk, where he then vetoed our resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to defend the American taxpayer and override this veto.

HONORING THE MEMORIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE PITTSBURGH SYNAGOGUE SHOOTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with a heavy heart, to honor the memories of the 11 victims of the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting, an attack on three Jewish congregations during Shabbat service on the morning of October 27, 2018.

Back in Pittsburgh, the trial for the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in our Nation's history is proceeding. The jury convicted the gunman on all 63 counts. Though this is a step toward justice, this trial reopened unimaginably painful wounds that have barely begun to heal.

Congregation Dor Hadash, New Light Congregation, and the Tree of Life Congregation all had members taken from them. Their names were: Joyce Fienberg, Richard Gottfried, Rose Mallinger, Jerry Rabinowitz, Cecil Rosenthal, David Rosenthal, Bernice

Simon, Sylvan Simon, Daniel Stein, Melvin Wax, and Irving Younger.

They were fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends, and colleagues. They were members of a vibrant community who sought solace, peace, and unity within the walls of their synagogue.

May their memories be forever a blessing. And may the strength and resilience shown by the survivors, the victims' family members, and the entire Jewish community throughout this heartbreaking trial forever be an inspiration to us all.

They inspire me to work even harder to confront the root causes of hatred, racism, and bigotry so that no community has to live in fear of such senseless gun violence ever again.

They were murdered by a white supremacist gunman who targeted them because of their faith and because their faith called them to welcome immigrants and refugees.

The shooter was motivated by the "great replacement theory." This was the same white supremacist theory that motivated the shooter in Buffalo to take the lives of 10 community members; the shooter in El Paso to take the lives of 23 Hispanic community members; and the shooter in Christchurch to take the lives of 51 Muslim worshippers.

The best prediction of violence against our communities is violent language. That holds in each of the four mass shooting examples I just mentioned. We must uphold the right of free speech while also working to stem the proliferation of violent rhetoric.

□ 1030

When I visited the synagogue this past February, I met with the Tree of Life congregation leadership and several family members of those murdered. I was profoundly moved, both by the unimaginable pain of what I saw, but also the beautiful conversations we had.

Together, we discussed what can be done to help the community heal from the trauma, and we discussed their vision for transforming the site into a center to educate against anti-Semitism and hate, a vision I support.

The attack on the three Pittsburgh Jewish congregations is part of a larger pattern of hate-fueled violence that plagues our Nation. The Black community is all too familiar with the rising tide of white supremacy in our country.

The Federal Government has the responsibility to act. We all have the responsibility to use our platforms and condemn the rhetoric and dismantle the systems of white supremacy that enable this and other kinds of violence against our communities.

We must strengthen our gun laws to make sure weapons of war never enter the hands of someone capable of such violence. We must invest in resources to identify and dismantle extremist networks. We must work hand in hand