

their continued perseverance, and I extend my congratulations on an incredible performance.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO STANLEY GOLDSTEIN

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stanley Goldstein, who passed away last month.

Born and raised in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, Stanley came from humble beginnings before graduating from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and serving in the United States Army.

Upon his return home in 1963, Stan and his brother Sid opened the first CVS store in Lowell, Massachusetts. He believed that success would stem from prioritizing customer satisfaction over easy profits. He was right.

By the time Stan retired as CEO of CVS in 2006, the company had become the largest drug store chain in the U.S., with over 4,000 stores. Today, CVS has over 9,000 stores and employs more than 300,000 people.

Stanley never forgot his roots. CVS is still headquartered in his hometown of Woonsocket, and he remained in Rhode Island his entire life, raising his family there.

In his retirement, he was sometimes seen digging for clams or listening to Red Sox games on the radio.

Stanley Goldstein leaves behind a legacy of hard work and dedication that has created jobs for thousands and improved the health outcomes for millions.

He will be deeply missed, but his legacy endures.

#### BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S CONTINUED INACTION AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TENNEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of my constituents in western North Carolina to demand accountability for the Biden administration's continued inaction at our southern border.

After more than 7.9 million illegal immigrant encounters in only 3½ years, the American people are wondering when will enough be enough for the Biden administration to finally stand up and stop this disaster at our border, a disaster that Joe Biden's policies have directly caused.

Tuesday, June 3, Joe Biden issued an executive order that claimed to finally restrict migrants' ability to seek asylum if they crossed into the country illegally, but if you look at that execu-

tive order closely, you will realize this is just more smoke and mirrors.

The executive order is nothing more than a desperate political stunt to stabilize his election numbers and does nothing to actually restore order or secure our border. The executive order continues to allow at least 2,500 illegal crossings per day, giving the green light to nearly 1 million new illegal crossings every year.

While 1 million crossings may not be Joe Biden's personal best, it is still a record high number of crossings per year across past administrations.

Worst of all, the executive order exempts unaccompanied children from the tally so human traffickers and parents are just going to continue to smuggle minors illegally across the border.

Need us forget that for the last 3 years, Biden has insisted that there is no border crisis. Suddenly, 5 months before the general election, Joe Biden admits that there is a crisis and suddenly has a solution.

I encourage the American people to take a real hard look at the supposed solution because it is a sham. It is time Biden take accountability for what he has caused at our southern border and actually take meaningful action to fix this mess.

Despite making no real progress on securing our border, if this executive order made anything clear, it is that his hands are not tied.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### THE STATE OF VOTING RIGHTS IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour along with my distinguished colleague, Representative TERRI SEWELL, of the great State of Alabama.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the Congressional Black Caucus will have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on the subject of the Shelby v. Holder decision and the American Voting Rights Act, specifically the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL).

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, today, we in the Congressional Black Caucus gather to observe the 11th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Shelby County v. Holder decision and to reflect on the state of voting rights in America.

It was exactly 11 years ago today when the Supreme Court's conservative majority gutted the heart of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, eliminating voter protections and removing Federal oversight from States with a proven record of voter discrimination.

We have seen, in those 11 years, 31 States institute at least 103 new laws to restrict voting rights. It is no surprise that those laws disproportionately target African-American and minority voters.

The consequences of the Shelby decision have been clear and devastating: long lines, strict ID requirements that require time and money to obtain, closed polling stations in communities of color, bans on early voting and absentee voting, the purging of voter rolls, and the list goes on and on.

In my home State of Alabama, lawmakers have recently made it a felony to assist someone with their absentee ballot. While these tactics may be new, we know that they are borrowed from the same playbook that has been used for generations to silence the voices of African-American and other minority voters.

While Black voters may not need to count the number of jelly beans in a jar, modern-day barriers to voting are no less pernicious than the poll tax and the literacy tests of the past.

In Shelby v. Holder, the Supreme Court was clear that the onus was on Congress to come up with a modern-day formula to determine which States are subject to Federal oversight.

Well, I am proud to say that we have done just that. Working together with our Nation's premier civil rights and voting rights organizations, we have come up with a modern-day formula to ensure States and localities with a recent history of voter discrimination are prohibited from restricting voter access. We even named it after our late, great colleague and hero, Congressman John Lewis.

The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which we introduced for the fifth time in September, will protect the rights of every American to vote.

Despite our efforts, our colleagues across the aisle have continued to block these efforts from being considered.

The fact that voting rights has been a partisan issue is frankly baffling to me. After all, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was reauthorized not once, not twice, but three times with broad bipartisan support, most recently by President George W. Bush.

Yet, all of a sudden, our colleagues across the aisle have abandoned the

issue of voting rights, choosing instead to spread disinformation and misinformation and to sow doubt about voters and the integrity of our elections.

It is sad, Mr. Speaker. It is shameful. As elected officials, we should be working tirelessly to ensure all Americans are able to vote instead of picking and choosing who can have access to the ballot box and who cannot.

Mr. Speaker, this fight is extremely personal for me. It was in my hometown of Selma, Alabama, nearly 60 years ago, where foot soldiers like John Lewis risked their lives on the Edmund Pettus Bridge for the equal right of all Americans to vote. They prayed, they protested, they bled, and some even died for that right. It was their sacrifice that gave us the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the crown jewel of the civil rights and voting rights movement.

Those foot soldiers were ordinary Americans who had the audacity to make this Nation live up to its highest ideals of equality and justice for all. They leave behind a strong legacy of courage and sacrifice, and we must ensure that it was not in vain.

It was John Lewis who told us that the right to vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most fundamental nonviolent tool in our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, our vote is our voice, and our democracy is strongest when every American is able to make their voices heard at the ballot box.

As we gather to observe the 11th anniversary of the Shelby County v. Holder decision, let us draw courage from the sacrifices of our foremothers and our forefathers.

We are not asking anyone to put their lives on the line. We are simply asking our Republican colleagues to have the political courage to do what is right.

□ 2000

We in the Congressional Black Caucus are demanding that Congress take up and pass the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and to do it without delay.

We are united in this fight, and we are ready to get into some good trouble.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for yielding to me, and I look forward to a rigorous occasion in which we talk about the importance of today being the 11th anniversary of the Shelby County v. Holder decision and our need to pass in immediate terms the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

We in the Congressional Black Caucus are ready to get into some good trouble, and tonight I know that we will make sure that this good trouble is put to good use.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the great State of Alabama (Ms. SEWELL), and I wish to be totally associated with all of her great remarks and scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because 11 years ago the Supreme Court of the United States proved that it lacked the judicial imagination befitting an institution clothed with immense power as 11 years ago the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Frighteningly, 11 years ago, the highest Court in the land decided that racism had magically evaporated in America and that hatred had somehow receded quietly into the history of the Republic never to be seen or heard from again.

Eleven years ago, nine Justices on the Supreme Court decided that they were social scientists with a particular expertise in racism and the politics of voting. Instead of being Justices who were hired by the American people to decide the constitutionality of a law, they rather took the position that the Court knew more about voter suppression than the people who have dedicated their entire lives to the subject.

Nine Justices on the Supreme Court, Mr. Speaker, thought they had a better working knowledge on the state of racism in America than people living with it every day. However, I rise tonight to declare emphatically that nothing could be further from the truth.

This Supreme Court does not know more about racism in America than do the people who are the survivors of it. The members of the Supreme Court are not experts on everything. They are not omniscient. They are not infallible. They are not beyond all moral and political reproach.

In fact, based upon what we have recently heard about certain members of the Supreme Court, it would seem that the complete opposite, in fact, is true. When it comes to the Supreme Court as it is currently configured, fallibility abounds.

I rise tonight, Mr. Speaker, because the elected Representatives of the American people cannot allow six unelected and seemingly uninformed individuals to undo the moral and democratic gains won by the civil rights movement over 50 years without doing something about it.

All over this country, we have seen the disparate impact that the Shelby County decision has had on voting access in America, and what was once thought to be a regional problem has now metastasized and become nationalized.

Since the Shelby decision, every region of this country is struggling to overcome novel attempts at voter suppression and the like. Regrettably, 11 years ago, those of us in the civil rights community told the leaders of this Nation what was going to happen.

We told America that gutting the Voting Rights Act would cause voter suppression to spread like a virus in a second-grade classroom, and that is exactly what has happened. That is exactly where we find ourselves today.

Those of us who believe that the only threat to democracy are events like unto those on January 6 are painfully naive. The greatest threat to democ-

racy isn't the outright violence that takes place when citizens who are motivated by lies engage in hand-to-hand combat with one other, but rather by the legalized and the systemic unraveling of the cherished democratic norms. However, those of us who love America cannot sit idly by and allow the darkness of bigotry to, once again, embed itself into the electoral systems of this country as it once was.

Those of us who have a constitutional mandate to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty cannot allow what African Americans did to expand the general welfare of this country's commitment to opportunity be erased.

Nothing is more indelible and inherently fundamental for the success of a thriving democracy than is the quality of a citizen's right to vote, because in America, voting is the manifestation of citizenship. In this country, if you cannot vote, then you are not a citizen.

Moreover, what most people miss about the civil rights movement is that at its core it was an attempt to empower African Americans with the rights afforded to us by virtue of our citizenship.

The right to vote is our birthright, and, yet, for hundreds of years, this country denied African Americans born in this Nation what was legitimately due to them. Moreover, it is only through blood, sweat, and tears that African Americans were able to fight in every war to, once again, regain full citizenship.

It was only because people were willing to give their lives that Black people in this Nation can cast a ballot for the candidate of their choice, and we are not going to let anyone take those rights away.

Reflecting upon Shelby v. Holder 11 years later, I would like to quote the Assistant State's Attorney General Kristen Clarke.

She said: "This anniversary provides an important opportunity to reflect on the profound consequences of that opinion" in Shelby County v. Holder "which struck down the key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and left millions of voters of color without the mechanism that had stopped voting discrimination before it could be implemented."

"When President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law, he described it as 'one of the most monumental laws in the entire history of American freedom.' The Voting Rights Act was the product of bold action by Congress. It forcefully addressed the problem that nearly a century after the Reconstruction Amendments, millions of Americans were still denied the ability" to cast their "vote and participate in our democracy because of their race."

"One of the most important pieces of the Voting Rights Act" that was taken away "was section 5's 'preclearance' requirement. Enacted in 1965 and reauthorized by Congress in 1970, 1975, 1982,

and 2006, section 5 required jurisdictions that had a history of voting discrimination to obtain approval from the Attorney General or a Federal Court before implementing changes in election procedures and practices.

“Covered jurisdictions could not implement their proposed voting changes until they had received preclearance. Thanks to section 5, jurisdictions that tried to make changes that had a discriminatory impact or were adopted with a discriminatory purpose were blocked from doing so. More than 800 proposed changes were altered or withdrawn in the period after 1982 alone.

“A repository of the department’s section 5 ‘objection letters,’ which provided an official record of each objection as well as the basis of the decision, can be found.

“The Shelby County ruling marked a significant turning point for voting rights in the United States. In its decision, the Supreme Court invalidated, on constitutional grounds, section 4(b) of the Voting Rights Act, which provided the formula for determining which jurisdictions were covered under section 5.

“Without that formula, all jurisdictions were released from coverage overnight. Section 5 was rendered effectively inoperative, freeing States and localities to enact voting laws without Federal oversight.

“States wasted no time implementing election changes that had not or might not have survived the preclearance requirement. On June 25, 2013, the very day that the Supreme Court issued the Shelby opinion, Texas officials announced that they would implement a discriminatory and burdensome photo identification statute. And on June 26, the day after the Shelby County decision, Senator Tom Apodaca, chairman of the North Carolina Senate Rules Committee, publicly stated that the North Carolina legislature would be moving forward with an omnibus law imposing multiple voting restrictions.”

Why weren’t they trying to expand voting?

They said: We will use this decision to restrict voting.

“In the absence of preclearance, the statutes went into effect and the department, along with private parties, had to file suit under a different part of the Voting Rights Act to enjoin them.”

Mr. Speaker, I continue:

“States have adopted photo identification requirements, limited those who can provide assistance at polling places, reduced options for early voting, and closed polling places. Unfortunately, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg proved prophetic when she observed in her Shelby dissent that ending preclearance was like ‘throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.’

“Without section 5, new laws can be challenged only through long, protracted, resource-intensive, case-by-case legislation,” and fights.

The John Lewis Voting Rights Act is the most fundamental piece of legislation pending before the United States Congress, and it must be enacted with all deliberate speed. This is something, Mr. Speaker, we must do.

Securing the right to vote is the moral obligation we have to the principles of America and to whatever we believe is a future worthy of our children.

Let me remind my colleagues that the progenitors of suppression do not stop with their initial targets. Today, the votes of African Americans are being suppressed all over the Nation, but tomorrow it might well be yours.

Do not forget the lessons of history. The people who are coming for our rights will never be satisfied with what they have attempted to do to us. Soon they will look for new targets; that is to say, new objects of their resentment, their ridicule, and their scorn.

However, what the Supreme Court Shelby decision has reinforced, in no uncertain terms, is the fact that elections have consequences. The inability to elect a Democratic President in 2016 led to this horrible decision, and those of us who stand on the precipice of a national election must remember this invaluable lesson.

Let us not forget that in 2016 the woman with the most votes did not win the presidency.

Whatever policy differences we may have with the President of the United States, we cannot allow the protection of our civil rights to be left in the hands of Justices who are so ideologically motivated that they unapologetically fly insurrectionist flags upside down at their homes.

Moreover, the only way to protect America from the conservative judicial fanaticism of the Supreme Court is to reelect President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. There is simply no other way for us to go.

Let us do what we must do so that justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard from our distinguished colleague, the Honorable TERRI SEWELL from the great State of Alabama, on this topic for the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Mr. Speaker, all issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus are our constituents, Congress, and all Americans tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL).

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, as we conclude our Special Order hour on this very important day, the 11th anniversary of the Shelby County v. Holder decision, we issue a call to action. We in the Congressional Black Caucus understand that the vote is the most fundamental tool of our democracy.

I cannot believe that 60 years after John Lewis was bludgeoned on a bridge that my colleague and I stand here today to talk about restoring the full protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

□ 2015

It tells us that progress is elusive, and every generation has to fight and fight again in order to hold onto the progress that we have made and to extend it.

John Lewis reminded us that ours is not a cause of 1 day, 1 week, 1 month. No, our struggle is a struggle of a lifetime, and everyone must do their part.

We here in the Congressional Black Caucus are doing our part. We are signing off and making sure that everyone understands that the alarms are going off. The alarms are going off because every American does not have equal access to the ballot box.

We see States all across this country that are imposing more restrictive voting laws. Voter suppression has become the cause of the day, and we must do our part. Our part is to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and to fully restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act.

Now, we know that the Supreme Court told Congress that we must come up with a modern-day formula. That is exactly what this bill does. It has a lookback of 25 years. We are not trying to make Alabama and Mississippi be held accountable for what happened in the 1960s and the 1950s. We are talking about 1997 and moving forward. We are talking about recent acts of voter discrimination.

We know that if we look back just 25 years, even 15 years, we know that there will be jurisdiction after jurisdiction that still has suppressive voting laws. As long as States are suppressing the right to vote, I believe that we have a moral obligation in the Federal Government to provide oversight.

We know that that oversight is critically important, and that is exactly what the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act will do.

As I take my seat, I want it to be heard around this Nation that we in the Congressional Black Caucus will not rest. We will not rest until we pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

To the gentleman from Illinois, it has been a pleasure talking about this most important topic. I know that I have welcomed you and your father time and time again to Selma, Alabama, to cross that bridge one more time. We know that a very frail John Lewis, with a body riddled with cancer, took to that bridge one more time in 2021. He told us to never give up, never give in, that ours is a just cause.

Because of that, we in the Congressional Black Caucus stand tall in our commitment to never go back to those days. We need to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. With the help of the Congressional Black Caucus and the gentleman from Illinois, we will do just that.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

# RECOGNIZING GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EDWARDS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH) for 30 minutes.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to host tonight's Special Order 30 minutes with the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force and Assistant Leader NEGUSE.

We are entering the final week of Gun Violence Awareness Month. On this 25th day of June, it is estimated that over 2,500 Americans have lost their lives due to gun violence in this month alone. Over 100 people are dying in this country every single day.

Back in my home State of Georgia, I have seen the compounding impact of gun violence in our communities. Earlier this month, there was a shooting at the Peachtree Center mall where a gunman shot and injured three people. Just hours later, a man who was interviewed by local news as a witness to the first shooting went on to commit an act of gun violence himself, hijacking a Gwinnett County bus and fatally shooting a passenger that very same day.

I don't know what anybody else thinks, but this epidemic is truly real. I know firsthand the pain of losing a loved one to senseless gun violence. It has been nearly 12 years now since I lost my son, Jordan, when he was just 17 years old.

On Black Friday in 2012, Jordan and his friends were simply going out shopping at the mall. They stopped at a convenience store gas station for all of 3½ minutes because my son, Jordan, said: Hey, guys, if we are going to pick up girls at the mall, you have to have fresh breath.

In those 3½ minutes, a man pulled up next to the boys in their car, and he started complaining about the loud music that they were playing. He racially profiled them, called them gang bangers. He called them thugs.

Then, he fired 10 shots into the car, killing my only son, and then he simply drove away. He acted as if nothing had ever happened.

He went back to his hotel with his girlfriend. They walked their puppy, Charlie. They ordered a pizza, and they made themselves a couple of stiff rum and Cokes. Then, they simply went to bed.

It was only the next morning that they saw on television that a young

Black male had been killed by 10 bullets at a convenience store gas station. This man and his girlfriend just simply got in their car and drove 170 miles back to Satellite Beach, Florida.

During the trial of my son's killer, I made a promise that I would spend the rest of my life fighting to make sure that no one else ever had to experience the pain and trauma that not only my family has experienced but the ever-growing club of people in this country who are succumbing to it every single day, parents who are burying their children who have been taken from this Earth far too early.

I became an advocate for gun safety. I became a spokesperson for Everytown for Gun Safety in America. In a district that was once held by Newt Gingrich, I ran for Congress strictly on a platform of gun safety and to save as many lives in this country as I possibly could. Against all odds, I won.

In the 5 years since I have come to Congress, the House Democratic Caucus has truly become the gun safety caucus. That truly gives me hope because I never ever thought I would be here. I never ever thought I would be standing on this floor. I never ever thought I would be here in Congress, living out my son's legacy as we pass as many bills as we can to stop more families from feeling the same pain that I felt from losing a child to unnecessary and horrific gun violence in America.

It is a testament to leaders like our Gun Violence Prevention Task Force chairman, MIKE THOMPSON, that we are able to celebrate these victories, these monumental accomplishments, and the remarkable change that has happened just within the last few years.

Today marks 2 years of major gun safety reform with the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, led by our gun sense House Democratic Caucus and President Biden, with parts of my red flag bill, with community intervention funding, and with mental health resources for all 50 States, solutions that the American people overwhelmingly have been crying out for and support.

We are building on that monumental progress every single day with the assault weapons ban and also the introduction of my bipartisan GOSAFE Act to keep weapons of war off of American streets and out of our schools.

With the introduction of new legislation and movement forward on discharge petitions to force votes on these very important bills, we, the gun sense Democratic Caucus, are working to protect the American people every single day. Even if the current majority doesn't want to stand up for the safety of their own constituents and their families, we are committed. We will do that because the American people deserve to live in their communities in this country safely and freely.

Tonight, we will hear from legislators. Many of these legislators are some of the most dedicated Members on this Hill who are making this kind

of progress possible every single day. They do this work day in and day out, leaders who have elevated the profile of gun violence prevention in the Halls of this Congress and many who championed this issue long before they were ever even considered an elected official.

This work takes all of us. That is why I am so grateful for this evening's speakers who are here with us tonight who will focus on our energy and the work that we have done during Gun Violence Prevention Awareness Month and hope that we can continue to encourage people to rededicate ourselves to the work of saving lives.

I have never been more optimistic about the future of this movement, and that is because of the work that I am blessed and privileged to do with my colleagues in this Chamber. Together, truly, we are definitely making a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE), our assistant Democratic leader.

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank my friends and Gun Violence Prevention Task Force leaders, Congresswoman LUCY MCBATH and Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, for convening us this evening. They both have been unwavering in their dedication to ending the scourge of gun violence in this country.

I want to take a moment in particular to salute and applaud my friend Representative MCBATH, who, as you heard, Mr. Speaker, has shown a remarkable amount of courage, bravery, and tenacity in converting her anguish, unspeakable, unthinkable anguish, into action to save lives. We couldn't be more proud of her and the work that she has done since she first graced the Halls of this august body and made ending gun violence a priority of not just hers but of this House.

Mr. Speaker, in a country where gun violence is the leading cause of death among children—I will repeat that just to let it sink in, gun violence is the leading cause of death among children in the United States—it comes as no surprise that, today, the Surgeon General declared that gun violence in America now constitutes a public health crisis.

□ 2030

My district, Mr. Speaker, has been acutely impacted by that crisis, by the pain of the gun violence epidemic.

A gunman, 3 years ago, walked into a local grocery store in my community in Boulder, Colorado. He killed, murdered in cold blood, ten of our beloved community members, including a police officer, who made the ultimate sacrifice, saved lives, died in the line of duty. This tragedy and the shock waves that it has spurred across my State serve as a reminder of why we as a Congress cannot abandon our mission to end this epidemic.

My community, Mr. Speaker, is not alone. From Uvalde to Buffalo, from