

Texas, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HURD of Colorado). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

□ 1930

#### CELEBRATING EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM RELIEF FOR NEBRASKANS

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the House passage of the Emergency Conservation Program Improvement Act, and I thank Congresswoman LETLOW and Senator FISCHER for their leadership in sending this important legislation to the President's desk.

Wildfires have wreaked havoc across Nebraska's Third District, with more than 860,000 acres burned this year alone.

Now more than ever, Nebraskans deserve relief, not additional burdens.

I was proud to cosponsor this commonsense piece of legislation, which will ensure that Emergency Conservation Program eligibility can be triggered faster in response to a natural disaster, like the wildfires in my district, and provide much-needed flexibility for producers as they begin to rebuild.

Nebraskans are resilient, but they shouldn't have to navigate unnecessary red tape while recovering from disaster.

Today, with final passage of this bill, we took a meaningful step toward providing producers with the timely support they need to rebuild, restore, and recover.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to seeing President Trump sign this into law.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

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

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the ongoing public health emergency caused by the Linage Logistics warehouse fire in Boyle Heights.

What started off in Boyle Heights has now spread smoke and fumes across Los Angeles. Our neighbors can't go outside. They can't open their windows. They are worried about the air they are breathing.

This disaster demands answers, but more importantly, it demands accountability. For far too long, working-class immigrant communities and communities of color have been forced to bear the burden of industrial pollution and environmental hazards.

Firefighters have worked around the clock to put out the fire, but the response can't stop there. We need air quality testing, soil testing, and frequent health monitoring.

I will keep fighting to ensure every affected family gets the answers, accountability, and resources they deserve.

#### ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

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

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, this past week, I kept running into Oregonians who are really upset about their healthcare.

One small business owner told me she dropped her family plan, which was costing about \$36,000 a year, and she joined a cost-share plan to lower her bills. She still pays out of pocket.

Another constituent, who is caring for her ailing husband, told me: "I have been inundated with doctors' visits and advocating for him. Our medical system is extremely frustrating."

Then a rural constituent told me that a simple surgery was rescheduled four times because no doctor was available.

Then, last week, I talked with Silicon Valley executives and asked them what they could do. I told them: Help us solve America's problems: healthcare, wildfires, you name it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you to do the same. Lead Congress to solve America's problems and not create more of them.

#### CANIACS CELEBRATING STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a victory that North Carolinians have waited years to see: The Carolina Hurricanes are Stanley Cup champions for the first time in 20 years.

From the first puck drop of the season to the final horn, the Hurricanes showed the grit and teamwork that define our State. They proved that success isn't built overnight. It is earned through discipline, perseverance, and trust in one another.

Today, we celebrate the players, coaches, staff, and the hundreds of thousands of Caniacs who never stopped believing, especially Head Coach Rod Brind'Amour, who first led our team to victory in 2006 as team captain.

The Canes have shown the hockey world that North Carolinians are hockey fans, and hockey belongs in the South. Of course, the championship belongs in North Carolina. The Stanley Cup is finally home.

#### CIVIL ENGINEERING PLAN FOR LINCOLN MEMORIAL REFLECTING POOL

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool requires a civil engineering plan.

First, replace the fractured subterranean pipes: Underground, the pool's 12-inch supply and return lines are deteriorated. They leak an estimated 16 million gallons of water every year. The Mall site actually sits in a floodplain related to drainage into the Potomac River. Water pressure pushes upward against the floor, forcing paint and sealant to blister, pop, and peel off.

Second, stabilize the lateral soil movement. While the 2012 overhaul stopped the pool sinking downward, it did not solve the side-to-side shifting. The pool sits on the Potomac River mudflats that continuously ooze and shift laterally.

Third, reengineer the expansion joints for shifting. A 2,000-foot concrete pad naturally expands and contracts like an accordion in freezing winter weather. Engineers have to install heavy, flexible water stops that seal gaps while letting slabs move without tearing.

Finally, there is drainage. Proper drainage and soil stabilization are required to manage runoff and prevent groundwater from seeping through the basin and compromising the concrete.

It isn't a vandalizing problem. It is an engineering problem. It can be solved.

#### HONORING ST. RITA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud alumnus of St. Rita High School in Chicago to celebrate their baseball team's first championship victory.

In a historic night of eight innings, the St. Rita Mustangs persevered and made history with a 12-11 score.

If you are a baseball fan, I encourage you to find a video of the end of this wild game and watch it. This was one for the books. The game had it all. There was suspense and shock when the Mustangs thought they had won, but the umpire ruled that the catcher had dropped the ball. It had anxiety when the game resumed. With the State title on the line, the rival team tied it, forcing it to extra innings. It had relief and joy when St. Rita secured the victory.

The Mustangs gave it their all. Their determination and hard work got them the victory that they had been chasing for 4 years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Mustangs. They deserve this victory.

## CELEBRATING NEW YORK KNICKS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate with the New York Knicks on their historic NBA finals win.

After 53 years of hoping each season would be the one, the Knicks are officially the 2025–2026 NBA champions.

From watching their 1973 championship when I was a teenager to sharing this moment with my family, like many New Yorkers and fans across the world, we have waited a long time for this moment.

I am proud that my home area has a special connection to this team. New York CD-16 is home to the Knicks' practice facility in Tarrytown, their Westchester Knicks G-League team, and many players, coaches, and families who live in my district, including the great Jalen Brunson. The heart of Knicks fans, coupled with the team's determination, charisma, and hard work on the court, represents the best of our district and the best of New York.

Mr. Speaker, from the floor of the House of Representatives, I say: Go New York, Go New York, Go. Go Knicks. I congratulate them on a historic championship win.

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## RECOGNIZING SIMONE KELLY

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

Ms. MEJIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courage and selflessness of Simone Kelly of South Orange, New Jersey.

During the New York Knicks championship parade, amongst a crowd of 2 million fans, Simone noticed a man climbing onto a roof of a subway station entrance. He was wobbling and swaying until he fell unconscious.

Simone immediately sprung into action. An off-duty EMT with the South Orange Volunteer Rescue Squad, Simone climbed onto that roof, assessed the situation, and administered Narcan, helping to revive the unconscious man until emergency responders arrived.

Her quick thinking, training, and commitment to serve others saved a life that day.

Just as important, Simone reminded us that public service is not confined to a shift, a uniform, or a title. It is a calling that guides people.

New Jersey is proud of Simone Kelly. Her actions embody the very best of our communities, and I thank her for her remarkable service.

## JUNETEENTH

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth reminds us of the importance of strength, faith, and perseverance.

Across eastern North Carolina, from our smallest towns to our most rural communities, we celebrated Juneteenth, honored history, and remembered the generations who kept believing in a brighter future.

Juneteenth reminds us that we must keep the American Dream within reach for everyone, which is possible when we stand together, work together, and believe together. We must remain committed to building communities where every child, every family, and every neighbor has the opportunity to succeed.

It is up to us to allow freedom to ring.

## GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Ms. MCCLELLAN of Virginia was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

## GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. 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 Virginia?

There was no objection.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour to speak directly to the American people about Gun Violence Awareness Month.

We are here to address the public health crisis facing not only the constituents of the Congressional Black Caucus but all Americans. Gun violence is an everyday reality that robs loved ones, erodes our sense of security, and shortens too many bright futures.

Every year, roughly 44,000 people in the United States die of gun-related injuries. In 2023, the most recent year for which the CDC provided complete data, 46,728 people died from gun-related injuries.

Black men ages 15 to 34 are most at risk, with firearm homicide rates at 22.6 per 100,000.

White males, particularly those who are 65 and older, have been disproportionately impacted by firearm suicides at a rate of 17.8 per 100,000.

In my own State of Virginia, gun violence kills over 1,200 people and wounds over 1,600 people. Suicides are 66 percent of those deaths.

In Richmond alone, where I live, 221 people were shot in 2025. While that number is the lowest on record since 2015, it is still too high.

These statistics are jarring, but they are more than just statistics. Each

number is a personal tragedy—mothers, fathers, sons and daughters, friends, and loved ones whose lives were cut short due to gun violence, like 23-year-old Genesis Jones of Petersburg, Virginia, who was killed while celebrating her brother's 25th birthday when a large altercation in the area led to gunfire that killed her and 42-year-old Dominic Antoine Jackson. They died because too many people resort to gun violence to resolve what was once done by fists.

Barbie Perez, 28 years old, was shot multiple times by the father of her child during an argument. He reportedly pushed Perez, and then the argument moved outside. He went to his car and then came back, pulled out a shotgun, and shot Perez in the leg and chest. Perez' mother saw him press the gun against her back and fire more rounds before putting the car in reverse and leaving the neighborhood.

Sierra Jenkins, a 25-year-old journalist at the Virginian-Pilot and Daily Press, was one of three people killed and five people shot in a shooting in downtown Norfolk after an argument broke out.

Increasingly, gun violence takes our children, becoming the number one cause of death for teens and children, like Zion Terry, the 18-year-old John Marshall student just weeks away from graduating, and his 14-year-old sister from Henderson Middle School, Sadie Terry, both killed by Sadie's father in a fit of rage.

Marquan Mitchell-Nash, my son's classmate, 1 week after I stood on this floor and took my oath of office, was killed accidentally by a gun he and his friends were using as a prop while filming a music video.

Shawn Jackson, an 18-year-old Huguenot High School student, and his stepfather, Lorenzo Smith, were killed moments after Shawn received his high school diploma because of a beef that started on Instagram and ended at that ceremony.

Samiyah "Mimy" Yellardy, a 17-year-old George Wythe High School student, was shot and killed in her own home on early Sunday morning during spring break.

McKenna Young, an 11-year-old, and 1-year-old Landrie Harris were both found with apparent gunshot wounds inside their Memphis home, where their mother was found with stab wounds.

These deaths impact families, but they impact entire communities. We cannot allow this violence to become normalized. We must stand together to advance commonsense gun safety legislation, invest in gun community violence intervention programs, and address the root causes that perpetrate this cycle of harm.

Year after year, we go back to our districts, and we talk to community leaders, faith leaders, and families about the real threats that they face. The overwhelming consensus is that Congress must pass comprehensive,