

There was no objection.

PRESERVING THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I am a proud supporter of the right to keep and bear arms. I am appalled by the President's attempts to erode our constitutional freedoms and impress his will by executive order. Our Founding Fathers would not have imagined that the right they listed second in the Bill of Rights, the right to bear arms, would be systematically attacked.

My opposition to what the President has proposed is based on the fact that his plan is not only unconstitutional, it is not effective. The Federal Government has tried a ban on these weapons before, and it did not work.

The National Institute of Justice states that "there has been no discernible reduction in the lethality and injuriousness of gun violence" due to the 1994 assault weapons ban. Gun control laws do not make our communities safer. They do not take firearms from criminals but, rather, from law-abiding citizens.

Second, the phrase "assault weapons ban" is a term of art. These are semi-automatic guns that essentially shoot the same kind of bullets as small-game hunting rifles. Simply put, these are hunting rifles made to look like a military gun. Banning it for cosmetic reasons doesn't make sense and won't save any more lives.

Third, banning large capacity magazines will do little to stop criminals. Any gun that uses a magazine can use a magazine of any size. That's true of rifles and handguns. So-called "assault weapons" are not any different.

In the end, if the President wants to begin a national dialogue about stopping violence, he shouldn't start by taking away our rights as citizens. I am willing to work with the President and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find a real solution to the challenges we face, but that solution will have to look at all the issues involved. But perhaps the most important part of the solution is restoring a culture of life in this country again.

May God bless America.

□ 1900

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN

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

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, March 3, 2013, the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and other women's organizations led the reenactment of the historic Women's Suffrage march down Pennsylvania Avenue. In March 1913, Delta Sigma Theta's 22 founders engaged in their first public act by joining other

women in a "spirit of protest against the political organization of society from which women were excluded."

While we have achieved a great deal in the last 100 years, it is quite evident that our journey is not complete. Women still deserve equal pay for equal work. Women deserve to control their own reproductive rights.

We still have to fight for the rights of all Americans to participate in the electoral process. The struggle continues.

MS. MORGAN—THE TEACHER; KARA ALEXANDER—THE STUDENT

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

Mr. POE of Texas. "Thank a Teacher." Mr. Speaker, we have all seen that bumper sticker.

I come from a family of teachers. My mother, mother-in-law, wife, and three of my four kids are teachers by profession.

When a special little girl, Kara, was in the third grade, she and her parents noticed her difficulty in processing words. Her speech pattern affected her self-esteem, her self-worth, and even her weight. Some kids made fun of her. Mrs. Morgan, the third grade teacher, was determined to help the little girl speak better.

With hard work, the little girl and teacher overcame the word problem. The student graduated as high school valedictorian. She obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees. She also obtained a Ph.D.

There is more. Today, that little girl received notice that she is tenured as an associate professor at Baylor University in the department of, yes, English. For you see, Kara Poe Alexander, our daughter, the little girl that had trouble talking, has a Ph.D. in English rhetoric, the study of words.

Congratulations, Kara, on being tenured faculty. And thank you, Mrs. Morgan, a teacher.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING FRANCES PERKINS

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, 80 years ago today, Frances Perkins was sworn in as Secretary of Labor. This is Women's History Month, and Frances Perkins certainly made history.

She was the first woman member in the history of the United States to be part of the Cabinet, and still holds the record as the longest serving Secretary of Labor. She brought us the Fair Labor Standards Act, giving working women and men fair wages, limits on overtime, and the right to organize. She was the architect of the Social Security Act.

Frances Perkins helped bring us out of the Great Depression. And as we

come out of the Great Recession, we need to ask what Frances Perkins would do today.

She would fight to raise the minimum wage. Almost two-thirds of all minimum-wage workers are women. Many are the sole breadwinners for their families. She would defend Social Security against those who want to cut its very modest benefits.

So today, we take time to remember Frances Perkins. Her message is still relevant today. Our Nation is stronger if we give working women—and men—fair opportunities and treatment.

PASSING THE SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

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

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, the first high-profile school shooting in modern memory occurred in Stockton, California, where a gunman took the lives of five innocent children and injured 29 others.

Robert Young, just 7 years old at that time, was one of the injured. He came up here last week to talk about gun control. This is part of his testimony:

I remember what it sounded like, as the bullets flew past my body. I remember the feeling of my feet literally being swept out from under me as a round traveled through my right foot. I remember the slap of the round that hit the pavement an inch or so in front of me, prior to lodging itself in the left side of my chest.

Today, Rob is a sworn law enforcement officer in the State of California. He came to Washington, not to urge Congress to pass more gun control, but to exhort this body to protect the Second Amendment.

In the 22 years prior to the 1990 enactment of federally dictated "gun-free school zones," there were only two mass shootings on school or university campuses. In the 22 years since, there have been 10, a five-fold increase. Not only have so-called "gun-free school zones" proven not to be "gun free," they appear to have placed our children in even greater danger.

The time has come to end this very deadly experiment of disarming peaceable, law-abiding citizens near schools. That's why I introduced H.R. 35, the Safe Schools Act, to repeal these deadly, so-called "gun-free school zones."

Law-abiding adults, including parents, teachers, and administrators who are allowed in their States to carry a firearm, should not be required to be disarmed. Our children are too precious to be turned into unprotected, soft targets for dangerous people. Passing the Safe Schools Act is the first step toward protecting our children.

COMMEMORATING THE LEGACY OF JEANNETTE RANKIN

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