

been clear: they are demanding a vote to keep Americans safe from gun violence.

When the Speaker announced a vote this week on gun violence, the American people hoped this would be a vote for families and children, a vote to honor victims and survivors of senseless gun violence, and a vote to keep Americans safe from harm. Instead, the American families have been given a bait-and-switch.

The bill we have in front of us is a vote for powerful special interests, a vote to honor the millions of dollars of the NRA's campaign spending, and a vote for a bill that does nothing to keep Americans safe from harm. This is a bill backed by the heavyhanded gun lobby that ensures it is easier for terrorist suspects to buy an assault rifle than to get on a plane.

Last week, representing half a million people, the mayors in my district came together and asked me to deliver a letter to Speaker RYAN. In part it reads:

"A strong and growing number of our constituents are deeply frustrated with the inaction of this Congress. We urge you to allow debate and votes on expanding background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of suspected terrorists."

The time is now for those votes.

IS THIS THE PEOPLE'S HOUSE?

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, we have heard Speaker RYAN say it. We have heard Majority Leader MCCARTHY say it. We have heard Leader PELOSI say it. We have heard Whip HOYER say it. We have all said it. We proudly refer to this body as the people's House.

Well, implicit in calling this the people's House is that we are responsive to what the citizens of this country want us to do. What a sham that description is when it comes to gun safety, what a total sham.

In my district, we are running at a record pace of homicide by gunfire. My constituents want to know why we can't even have a debate and a vote on sensible universal background checks which, according to a poll this week, 92 percent of the American people want.

I call on Speaker RYAN to fulfill the promise of the people's House and bring sensible gun safety legislation to this floor.

NO FLY, NO BUY

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a diverse district in New York, a State whose ban on assault weapons was just upheld by the Supreme Court, and a State which just

closed, on the State level, the senseless loopholes in our Federal gun purchasing regulations that allow known criminals and domestic abusers to obtain guns.

But one group of people New York's gun safety laws cannot reach are terrorist suspects. That is because the Federal Government controls the terrorism watch list. So it is up to Congress to make sure we keep guns out of the hands of known terrorists. And the vast majority of Americans agree, so we must act.

Mr. Speaker, this body has no more important mandate than to ensure the safety of our citizens. We must pass no fly, no buy, and we must pass comprehensive background checks to close the loopholes for those that are trying to purchase guns, and we need to act now. Enough is enough.

CITIZENS ARE DEMANDING REAL ANSWERS

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, since our sit-in, led by our moral leader, JOHN LEWIS, a steady, consistent chorus of voices across the country is growing louder demanding action on gun violence. The heartfelt calls, letters, emails, and social media postings continue to flood in from my constituents.

These are grandparents, mothers, young people who are saying "enough." In Sacramento alone, 60 people have lost their lives this last year. These are people who believe in the power of democracy, who are raising their voices, and who are counting on us to listen. They are saying "enough" to Republicans not having the courage to stand up to the powerful gun lobby.

The NRA-backed Republican deal we are considering today is an empty promise to the American people. It would make it nearly impossible to stop suspected terrorists from purchasing firearms, and it would do nothing to close a loophole that allows criminals to bypass a background check by simply going online or to a gun show.

Mr. Speaker, our citizens are demanding real answers, not hollow gestures. Let's listen to them. We will not rest until you do.

MEANINGFUL GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, last week I joined my Democratic colleagues from Michigan for a standing-room-only meeting of community members concerned about gun violence in our country. We were joined by representatives from law enforcement, the faith community, domestic violence advocates,

the LGBT community, and grassroots organizations.

We are at a turning point. The Speaker called our sit-down efforts a stunt. How wrong. It is the proposal that he is offering that would be a stunt instead of really addressing tragic gun violence confronting this Nation.

We should be considering the bipartisan, commonsense legislation that Americans overwhelmingly support: preventing suspected terrorists from buying guns, known as no buy, no fly, and closing loopholes that allow online and gun show sales to go forward without background checks.

There is strong public interest for action. We witnessed that last week. The Speaker must no longer stand in the way.

WE MUST PURSUE COMMONSENSE GUN VIOLENCE LEGISLATION

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, we must pursue commonsense gun violence legislation, legislation that makes a real impact on the epidemic of gun violence in our country. The American people are crying out for a vote, and we have a moral obligation to take action.

Two weeks ago, Democrats stood and sat on this floor and demanded a commonsense gun violence prevention bill. We are back today to continue that fight.

The bills the Republicans are bringing to the floor this week do little to eliminate the scourge of gun violence in our communities. In fact, the Zeldin bill is supported by the National Rifle Association. I think that is all you need to know.

We need to move a real no fly, no buy bill, one that actually prevents potential terrorists from getting dangerous weapons. But our work cannot stop there because gun violence in this country does not only occur at the hands of terrorists. We need to address the issue of universal background checks, to ban assault weapons, and to conduct research on gun violence.

No more deaths. The American people deserve a Congress that votes on the issues that they most care about. Not one more death in this country.

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GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in my district, the Fourth District of Georgia, the people are tired of gratuitous gun violence. Gun violence and gun deaths have risen by 8 percent over the last decade.

Just this Friday night, a 35-year-old female was killed. Her brother had