terrible tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School; 34,000, that is the number of people who have been killed by someone using a gun since Sandy Hook; 1,182, that is the number of mass shootings in our country since Sandy Hook; 30, that is the number of moments of silence observed by this House for victims of gun violence since Sandy Hook; 521, that is the number of days the House has been in session since Sandy Hook; and zero—zero—that is the number of votes that have been taken in this House to keep guns out of dangerous hands in the last 3½ years.

Just a few weeks ago, we experienced the worst mass shooting in our country's history at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. Forty-nine innocent people lost their lives in that nightclub, 49 people who were someone's son, daughter, someone's brother, sister, someone's significant other, someone's friend, and someone's loved one.

After this horrific shooting, the American people don't want to see their elected representatives fall back into the same old pattern of mass shootings followed by moments of silence, thoughts and prayers, but no real action taken to help prevent the next tragedy. The American people want to see Congress pass meaningful legislation to help keep our communities and our loved ones safe.

Eighty-five percent of Americans are in favor of banning individuals on the terrorist watch list from being able to legally buy guns. Ninety percent of Americans support strengthening and expanding our background check system.

There are two bipartisan, pro-Second Amendment bills that would do just that:

The first bill, H.R. 1076, known as the no fly, no buy, was introduced by our Republican colleague PETER KING. This bill says that if you are on the FBI's terrorist watch list, then you don't get to walk into a gun store, pass a background check, and leave with the weapon of your choice. If there is one thing both sides of the aisle should be able to agree on, it is keeping guns away from suspected terrorists. Bring that bill up for a vote.

The second bill, H.R. 1217—with 186 coauthors, Democrats and Republicans—would close a dangerous loophole in our background check system that allows criminals, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill to bypass a background check altogether and, instead, purchase their guns online or at a gun show or through a classified ad. This is a huge loophole, and it costs lives.

You don't have to look any further than the sister of Elvin Daniel from Wisconsin. His sister Zina had a restraining order against her husband which prevented him from passing a background check when he tried to buy a gun in a store. Nevertheless, Zina's husband was able to go online and buy the same gun, a 40-caliber semiautomatic handgun, and he took that gun and used it to kill Zina and two other people in a store in Wisconsin.

This bill would close these kinds of loopholes and help stop criminals from getting guns. Everyone says they want to keep guns away from dangerous people, but the only way to know if someone is dangerous is to conduct a background check. Background checks are our first line of defense against criminals, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill in getting guns.

Last year, 260 Members of this House—including 76 of my Republican colleagues—voted to fund the background check system at record levels. Let me tell you, if you are willing to fund the system at historic levels, you should have no problem using the system. Bring this bill up for a vote.

Both of these bills are not only bipartisan, they respect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. I am a gun owner. I own guns. I support the Second Amendment. If these bills did anything to violate those rights, my name wouldn't be on them. As a responsible gun owner, I understand that if gun violence continues unabated, then eventually we will see laws that place overly burdensome restrictions on our right to own guns. Bring these bills up for a vote.

BRING HOME OUR POW AND MIA SERVICEMEMBERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I organized a discussion here on Capitol Hill focused on a resolution I have introduced which I believe could have a major impact on our Nation's ability to return more than 80,000 American citizens who served in the Vietnam war, Korean war, and World War II who are still missing in action.

I authored H. Con. Res. 56 because I am thankful every day as the father of an injured Army soldier that he returned home safely. I cannot imagine the pain and anguish of the wives, the husbands, the mothers, the fathers, the sons and daughters who wait for decades, and even generations, to receive word regarding their loved one who was taken as a prisoner of war or is missing in action.

We need to make the greatest effort possible to bring home the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. We need to fulfill that promise that we leave no man behind. That is why this resolution states that, in order to ensure transparency and efficiency, countries that enter into trade agreements, trade deals with our Nation, must assist in the research and the recovery efforts of America's missing servicemembers.

I am proud to represent the Pennsylvania Fifth Congressional District, which covers a broad expanse of my State's northern and central territory. Over the years, I have heard from the families of servicemen, such as Major Lewis P. Smith II, of Bellefonte, Centre County, a Vietnam soldier who was listed missing in action; Captain Darl Bloom of Morrisdale, Clearfield County, who served in Vietnam as a pilot and is listed as missing in action; and Lieutenant David Myers of State College, Centre County, who also served in Vietnam and is listed as missing in action all these decades later.

These brave men and the thousands of others across our Nation who remain listed as missing or as prisoners of war deserve our most diligent efforts. When a servicemember makes the ultimate sacrifice, it is our duty to ensure that they are returned home to their loved ones. I appreciate the support of this measure from groups dedicated to our servicemembers and veterans. It is time to bring home the men and women over the past several generations who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.

NO MORE MOMENTS OF SILENCE

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

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce you to Caroline Nosal. Caroline was described by her friends as wonderful and sassy. She had a sharp wit and would say exactly what she thought. Friends said she was a vibrant friend with a great smile. Her parents said she was curious, caring, and kind.

She loved books. She wasn't a bookish person, but she loved books, all kinds of books. Once with a friend shopping in a used bookstore, she picked up an old, well-read copy of an 18th century animal husbandry book, a subject she knew nothing about but just wanted to get because it was new to her. She did that a lot.

She was passionate about animals as well. Once while driving to work, she accidentally hit a bird. She stopped, put it in a box, and took it to the Humane Society on her way to work. Even though she was late to work, she knew she had done the right thing.

But in early February of this year, in Madison, Wisconsin, Caroline Nosal was shot to death by a troubled, disgruntled coworker who used to harass her and who had just bought a gun 24 hours earlier.

Only months before this tragedy occurred, Governor Scott Walker and the legislature in Wisconsin changed a decades-old Wisconsin law that had required a 48-hour waiting period to buy a handgun, a measure that, if in place, might have saved Caroline.

You see, the assailant got fired, went out and bought the gun with the plan to immediately shoot her; but since he had never fired a gun, instead, he took it to target practice so he could learn how to shoot it. He bought the gun on Monday, and on Tuesday used it to