

problem. I don't know anybody who opposes those items.

We can't get a bill on the floor because the Republican majority is afraid of their own position. They are scared to let the American people know where they stand on these issues.

Just yesterday, we had to use a legislative gimmick called a motion to recommit, which nobody in America understands—I didn't understand it before I got here—but it was the only way we could get the issue on the floor. And even then, when Mr. THOMPSON offered it, it was ruled out of order.

Through machinations of rule on rule on rule, we weren't even allowed to vote on that. The item was ruled non-germane and a motion was made to lay it on the table. The only vote we got was to overrule the ruling of the Republican chair to lay it on the table.

The people who voted to lay it on the table yesterday voted to allow terrorists to buy weapons. The people who voted to lay it on the table yesterday voted to allow criminals and terrorists to continue to buy guns under our current gaps in the background check law. That is what that vote was.

Now, I know no Republican who voted that way will go home and explain it to their constituents. They will say: Oh, no, it was just a procedural motion. And many of them will probably get away with it. That is a shame.

What I don't understand is why people claim this is somehow against due process—and, by the way, the bills have due process in them; written by a Republican during a Republican Presidential administration—when there is plenty of due process. If anybody wants to add more, we will add more.

No one was concerned about due process when they voted for the PATRIOT Act that allowed the NSA to listen to everybody's cell phone conversations. No one was caring about due process when Americans grabbed people from around the world and kept them under lock and key for as long as we want. But now we are concerned about it. God forbid we offer an amendment to deal with their concerns.

All I want is a vote. All I want is Members of this body to have the courage of their convictions. If you think those bills are bad, bring them to the floor and vote "no" and go home and explain it to your constituents. I do it all the time. That is why I came here. I thought that is what we did.

We are not supposed to be the people who hide. We are supposed to be leaders. Lead. Don't cower in fear behind political nonsense and gimmickry because you haven't got the courage of your convictions.

This issue will not go away. The American people are tired—and have been for a long time—of politicians who refuse to stand up and be counted for their principles.

We don't mind disagreements. I don't mind losing on an issue here and there. I do mind not being given the opportunity to debate and vote on the im-

portant issues of the day, issues that everybody in America wants. Mr. Speaker, that is why I am here.

We will debate the merits another time—if we are lucky—but it will not go away, and you cannot hide from your refusal to allow a vote on these two simple, commonsense proposals.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEER. Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself with the outstanding comments of my colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO). I couldn't agree with him more.

I am, proudly, a member and co-chair of our task force against gun violence. I proudly support every American's right to own a firearm. I believe as strongly as anyone in this room that all we are trying to do here is get a vote, a simple vote—let the votes fall where they may—a simple vote on closing loopholes as they relate to background checks and making sure terrorists can't buy guns if they can't even fly.

Now, over the last many months, I have spent many 5-minutes talking about all those who have died because of mass shootings in this country. I have a memorial wall outside my office that is filling up quite quickly with all the lives that have been lost because of mass shootings.

During our sit-in on the House floor last week, we read the names of those in Orlando who were victims. Today, I am going to remember the 54 other victims last month in 51 other mass shootings that took place in the month of June. Even excluding Orlando, so many people last month were affected by mass shootings that I don't have time within my 5 minutes to list those who were injured but survived.

Here are those who died in mass shootings in June that were not victims in Orlando:

Devonne Burton, 28; Sean Pointe, 27; and Derrius Woods, 27; were killed on June 4 in Denver, Colorado.

Brian Harris, 44, and Robert Sykes, also 44, were killed when a gunman opened fire in a motel on June 5 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Jeremy Taylor, 54, and Sean Strickland, 26, were killed when a gunman opened fire in a convenience store on June 7 in Cape Coral, Florida.

Raekwon Brown, 17, was killed outside a school on June 8 in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

Adrian Potts, 20, was killed outside of a university apartment complex on June 11 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Stephanie Gonzalez, 17, and her sister, Kimberly Gonzalez, 13, were killed by their mother's ex-boyfriend on June 11 in Los Angeles, California. The shooter also wounded their mother and brother.

Cynthia Villegas, 34, and her daughters, Yamilen, 14, Cynthia Janeth, 11,

Abby, 7, and Ida, 3, were killed by their husband and father on June 11 in Roswell, New Mexico.

An unidentified 30-year-old man was killed outside an ice skating park on June 11 in Stockton, California.

Reggina Jefferies, 16, was killed as she was attending a memorial service on June 14 in Oakland, California. She had just performed a praise dance honoring two boys who drowned.

Robert Marto, 54, and Jason Moore, 41, were killed outside of a bar on June 18 in Warren, Ohio.

Cameron Wilkins, 21, and Felicia Williams, 32, were killed in a housing complex on June 18 in Waycross, Georgia. Cameron had seven children.

Ronald Graves, 30, was killed in a house on June 19 in Exmore, Virginia.

Gary Porter, 41, was killed at a party on June 19 in Syracuse, New York. He had four children.

Monte Compton, 24, and his cousin, Donte Jefferson, 29, were killed on June 21 in Louisville, Kentucky.

Gerald Berkey, 36, Jackson Edens, 28, and Terron McGrath, 31, were killed in a trailer on June 22 in Lacey, Washington. Terron leaves behind two daughters, 8 and 12.

An unidentified man was killed on June 22 in DeKalb County, Georgia.

Carlina Renee Gray, 50, Jan Marie Parks, 55, and Allen Rowlett, 60, were killed on June 24 in District Heights, Maryland.

Treavon Lewis, 22, and Jordan Larkin, 18, were killed at a dance club on June 25 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Fernando Wingfield, 44, was killed outside a bar on June 26 in Atlanta, Georgia.

An unidentified man was killed on June 26 near a pool in Houston, Texas.

Ruben Rigoberto-Reyes, 60, Edmundo Amaro-Bajonero, 26, and Katie Gildersleeve, 30, were killed on June 27 on a blueberry farm in Woodburn, Oregon.

Phoukeo Dej-Oudom, 35, and her children, Dalavanh, 15, Xonajuk, 14, and Anhurak, 9, were killed by their husband and father on June 29 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Chanda Foreman, 37, was killed while sitting in her car on June 30, in Chicago, Illinois. It was her birthday and she was going out to celebrate.

This carnage must end. Just give us a vote on two modest bills to help stem the bloodshed.

A MESSAGE 68 YEARS IN THE MAKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I love my country. No one says the Pledge of Allegiance with greater enthusiasm than I. No one sings "God Bless America" with more love for country than I.

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Mr. Speaker, I consider it a pre-eminent privilege to stand in the well