

American public is crying for laws," he says.

Robert is right. I can think of no other product or industry that has so few measures in place to protect our safety, and we need to rethink our approach to guns. We can't put the interests of gun manufacturers and the gun lobby ahead of the safety of our communities. Those of us in Congress have the power to do something, and it is long past time for us to act.

We can start with measures that have broad support among the American people. Ninety percent of Americans support comprehensive background checks. Background checks would help reduce the flood of weapons that come into Chicago from gun shows and online sales.

Would it stop every shooting? Of course it wouldn't. But would it save some lives? Absolutely.

My heart goes out to the families in Dallas and Orlando and Chicago and so many other places that have had the lives of their loved ones stolen away by gun violence, and we need to grieve. But after that moment of silence, we must direct our sadness and our anger into action.

The problem of violence in communities may seem insurmountable, and no single policy will stop every death. But we should start by passing commonsense gun legislation supported by the vast majority of the American people.

We need a vote on legislation to keep guns out of the wrong hands. Republicans and Democrats and gun owners and NRA members agree that background checks for every gun purchase and closing the gun show loopholes and all the other loopholes will help.

So give us a vote, Mr. Speaker. My constituents are crying for action. Let's act, not ignore their cries any longer. Give us a vote.

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING TERRORIST, UNDERGROUND, AND OTHER ILLICIT FINANCING

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5594, the National Strategy for Combating Terrorist, Underground, and Other Illicit Financing Act. I wish to commend my colleague from Pennsylvania, Congressman MIKE FITZPATRICK, for his leadership on this bill.

This bill would direct the President to work with the Secretaries of the Treasury, State, Defense, and Homeland Security Departments, as well as Federal banking agencies and the Director of National Intelligence to create a comprehensive national strategy to push back against terror financing.

This national strategy would call for an ability to adapt to technology de-

velopments used by terrorists and to use technology to fight terror financing; it would encourage working with private financial institutions; and it would emphasize coordination efforts between international, State, and local officials.

This is a very good bill, and I am proud to support it.

SIMPLIFYING THE APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AID

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5528, the Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act.

This bill would make it easier for students to fill out the free application for Federal student aid, also known as the FAFSA form, in a number of ways. It would allow students to apply for financial aid earlier by using tax data from the 2 years prior before the FAFSA is dated. Under this legislation, some of the critical information FAFSA requires would be automatically entered, removing barriers that could hinder students in need from applying for aid.

We should do everything we can to assist students who want to attend college. And, Mr. Speaker, this legislation will help many students get more of a head start on responsible financial planning for their future.

SOLAR FUELS INNOVATION

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5638, the Solar Fuels Innovation Act.

This legislation would enable the Federal Government to contribute to advancing energy technology at early stages through the Solar Fuels Basic Research Initiative at the Department of Energy.

The initiative would focus on the areas of science that are necessary to develop solar fuels, such as chemistry and materials science. It is important, indeed, and it is critical that we accelerate the research and deployment of next generation clean energy technologies.

In authorizing this research, which would be made available to companies, the Federal Government would help cutting-edge companies take the critical next steps in energy innovation. If we are thoughtful in how we advance American energy innovation, we can create jobs, preserve our resources, and improve the health of our communities.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH PARIS

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Joseph Paris, a teacher at the Stetson Middle School in the West Chester Area School District, who received the Bob Thompson Excellence in Energy Award from the National Energy Education Development Project.

Mr. Paris has been bringing technology into the classroom, while spurring interest and encouraging students to succeed. Great job, Mr. Paris.

RECOGNIZING THE HOME OF THE SPARROW AS NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the Home of the Sparrow as Nonprofit of the Year, as recognized by The Main Line Chamber of Commerce.

The Home of the Sparrow provides housing, education, and access to community resources to low-income women in Chester County. And the Home of the Sparrow has helped bring positive change to so many, and continues as a stellar, caring example of making a difference in Chester County.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, it has been 4 days since the mass shooting in Dallas. It has been a month since the mass shooting in Orlando. It has been 7 months since the mass shooting in San Bernardino, and at the Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs. It has been a year since the mass shooting in Charleston. It has been 2 years since the mass shooting in Umpqua Community College in Oregon. It has been 3½ years since the mass shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. It has been 4 years since the mass shooting at the theater in Aurora, Colorado. It has been 5½ years since the mass shooting in Tucson, Arizona, where our colleague, Gabby Giffords, was shot.

Mr. Speaker, please talk to Speaker RYAN. Not once, after any of those shootings, in all of these 5½ years, have we had one hearing or one vote on gun violence, not one.

Now, we have had 60 votes on repealing the Affordable Care Act, none of which went anywhere. The Republican majority has spent millions of dollars going after Benghazi or emails to no avail; but not one vote, not one hearing, nothing on gun violence.

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Now, Mr. Speaker, you know I would much rather be here talking about the Broncos winning the 50th Super Bowl. I would much rather be talking about the unbelievable accuracy of NASA getting the Juno satellite to Jupiter after 5 years of space travel within 1 second of the planned time. I would much rather be talking about Jenny Simpson, who is a University of Colorado graduate who is going to Rio, and wish her much success and that the wind be at her back. Those would be a lot more fun. Those would be some things I would love to do. But we have got to grapple with this issue. It is not going away, and we are not going away.

We asked for two commonsense pieces of legislation. They certainly aren't going to handle all the ills of society, but one is no fly, no buy; meaning, if you are on the terrorist watch list, you don't get a gun. The second is so common sense, which is background