

NOT VOTING—13

Bass	Cummings	Pearce
Bishop (GA)	Deutch	Rogers (KY)
Cheney	Duncan (SC)	Wasserman
Costa	Gutiérrez	Schultz
Courtney	LoBiondo	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1156

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Can the Chair tell us when the House may muster the courage to take up the issue of gun violence?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a proper parliamentary inquiry.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

APPOINTMENT AS INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Speaker, majority leader and minority leader, their joint appointment, pursuant to clause 6 of rule II, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of Mr. Michael Ptasienski, McLean, Virginia, as Inspector General for the U.S. House of Representatives.

BALTIC STATES CELEBRATE THEIR CENTENNIAL

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the upcoming centennial anniversaries of the statehood and independence of the three Baltic States.

This year marks 100 years since the restoration of the state of Lithuania on February 16, and the proclamations of independence of Estonia on February 24, and Latvia on November 18. Thus, in the aftermath of World War I, in 1918, Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia de-

clared their independence and marked their beginnings as new republics and their emergence as modern democratic societies.

Despite a history of turmoil, the people of the Baltics have always stood up for their values and worked to maintain their independence, freedom, and sovereignty.

Today, 100 years later, the three Baltic States are strong allies of NATO and full-fledged members of the European Union. They are committed to making the transatlantic community an area of cooperation, partnership, and prosperity. The United States is proud to be strong allies of the Baltic States, and our nations stand together to defend our shared values of freedom and democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I extend sincere congratulations and send best wishes to Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia on their centennial observations and anniversary.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, what will it take? What will it take for this body to finally grapple with this issue?

Columbine wasn't enough. West Virginia wasn't enough. Colorado, in a movie theater, wasn't enough. A nightclub in Orlando wasn't enough. Newtown wasn't enough.

Mr. Speaker, this has become a national disgrace. Ninety-five percent of the American people say that they believe in sensible gun reform, gun laws that make sense. Ninety-five percent. The minority party does not represent 95 percent of this Nation.

You are in that number as well, yet you still turn your back on the American people. The NRA stands for "no Republican action."

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY MARKS ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud Bobcat to recognize Montana State University, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary tomorrow on Founders' Day.

Montana State University, a land-grant university in my hometown of Bozeman, was formed in 1893. Originally, the agricultural college of the State of Montana, the school started with eight students in a small classroom in a local high school.

The college quickly grew to include many other degree paths, including engineering and nursing; two programs for which the school is particularly known.

Today, Montana State University serves over 16,000 students each year. This year's spring enrollment set a new record for the tenth year in a row.

Montana State University is a cornerstone of the Bozeman community, and we are fortunate to have such an institution in our State.

The fact is that the success of my business, as well as that of many others, would not have been possible without Montana State University.

Go, Cats, go.

WE NEED SENSIBLE GUN LAWS

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart, imagining the pain felt in Parkland, Florida. No parent should have to send their children to school each day wondering if they will return home.

While details of the shooting in Florida are still emerging, it is clear this horrific act of violence was perpetrated by an individual in crisis.

I lost my older sister to suicide with a firearm at a young age. What I have learned since is that helping to prevent people in crisis from temporarily having a gun saves lives.

Today, I urge my colleagues to support the Gun Violence Restraining Order Act, allowing family members or law enforcement officials to petition a judge to temporarily remove firearms from an individual in crisis.

For those who keep repeating after each mass shooting that it is too soon to discuss gun violence reform, please consider that for many families, including my own, it is far too late.

We owe these families more than just our thoughts and prayers. We owe them sensible gun laws that protect our children from needless gun violence.

JENNIFER'S STORY OF TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Jennifer's childhood was violently chaotic. By her early twenties, she was living on the streets, begging and stealing to survive.

After a local gang member suspected that she may have stolen his money, her life became even more horrific and hellish. The gangster beat her mercilessly with a baseball bat until she collapsed, and then he and other gang members pistol-whipped her and burned her with cigarettes. They tattooed their names all over her body, branding her as property. For 6 years, they held her in slavery, forcing her to have sex with countless men for money.

Desperate, Jennifer tried to kill herself, but when the rope broke, she resolved to escape. Luckily for Jennifer, she found a shelter and was able to rebuild her life. She covered up the traffickers' names with flowers and the words "free yourself."

We, as a society, owe it to Jennifer and survivors like her to protect them