

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, a person sends their child to school and expects that they are going to come home safely.

I am so sad for the grieving families of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. Innocent children—gone in a blink. I am thankful for the first responders, but foremost, my thoughts are with the grieving families, the students, and the teachers affected by this horrific shooting.

We see this carnage over and over again. We know there is no magic solution, but that doesn't mean that there are no solutions. We need more resources for mental health, not tax cuts for billionaires. And, yes, Mr. President, are you listening? We need commonsense gun safety legislation, not these idiotic bills that expand gun usage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HANDEL). Members are reminded to please address their remarks to the Chair and not to a viewing audience.

CALLING FOR SENSIBLE GUN REFORM

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I do not rise today for another moment of silence for Parkland, Florida, for the semiautomatic weapon and shooter who wielded it already silenced 17 Floridians and injured countless others at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Instead, I rise to make their voices heard. I rise to call for action on sensible gun reform. The Parkland shooter likely got his semiautomatic weapon through a private sale or a gun show without a background check, in spite of a record of mental health issues.

It is time to close that loophole. The Las Vegas shooter used a bump stock to convert a semiautomatic weapon into an automatic weapon—which is already illegal. Bump stocks should also be illegal.

Why is nothing happening? In my own home of Orlando, the shooter at the Pulse nightclub was on the FBI watch list. Imagine if we passed no fly, no buy and stopped that from happening.

Now is not the time for silence. Now is the time for action, and now is time for solutions.

□ 1230

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTIANA DUARTE

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Christiana Duarte. Christiana attended the Route 91 Festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

She had recently graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in

business marketing. While in college, she interned with the Arizona Wildcats and was a member of the sorority Sigma Kappa. After graduation Christiana worked for the Los Angeles Kings as a fan services associate.

Friends and family remember Christiana as a bright, beautiful young woman who was full of life and energy.

I would like to extend my condolences to Christiana Duarte's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S BUDGET

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

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, a budget reflects one's values. President Trump's budget shows he values polluters and profits over people.

With the ink barely dry on the Republican tax scam, Trump's budget proposes we pay for their corporate giveaway by gutting public health and environmental programs.

One of the budget's largest targets is the EPA, which will suffer a 25 percent cut. This means cuts to grants that help States like California implement the Clean Air and Clean Water Act. That means cuts to Superfund programs that clean up sites where toxic chemicals from factories and landfills were dumped for decades, polluting the surrounding soil, water, and air.

We simply cannot afford a dirty budget that prioritizes polluters and profits over people.

AMERICAN SCHOOLCHILDREN ARE AT RISK

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, this House generally jumps into action once there has been a mass shooting by having a moment of silence. Today we didn't even have a moment of silence because the House knows that those are meaningless acts that don't have any effect on our schoolchildren who have been the victims of 18 school mass shootings this year.

It is shameful this Congress has not dealt with no fly, no buy. If you are on a terrorist list, you can still buy a gun.

It is a shame this Congress passed a law that takes away from individuals who get Social Security who may be mentally ill the ability to buy a gun.

We don't even have studies on what has been happening in trying to protect schoolchildren. It is a shame.

We need to act. American schoolchildren are at risk, and I am ashamed at what this Congress has failed to do: take action.

LET DEMOCRACY PREVAIL ON IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, we have 4 legislative days before those protected by DACA will be at risk. The Speaker has said he was going to address this issue. He has not at this point in time.

The Speaker said on 9/23/2010: We will advance major legislation one issue at a time.

He said: We will not duck the tough issues. We will take them head-on.

In that light, I urge the Speaker to put on the floor the three bills that are pending in this House: a clean Dream Act; the USA Act, sponsored by Representatives AGUILAR and HURD, a bipartisan bill; and a Republican bill, the Securing America's Future Act, sponsored by Representative GOODLATTE.

Madam Speaker, let the people's House speak. Let them vote. Put these three bills on the floor, and let the majority rule. That is democracy. Let democracy prevail in this House.

IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, in June, seven American heroes died on a dark night when a ship collided with an American destroyer, the USS *Fitzgerald*. Among the dead were immigrants from Vietnam and the Philippines, as well as sons of workers who journeyed north from Guatemala.

As one of the sailors who survived explained: You are crammed in with all sorts of cultures on the ship, but when you are on the *Fitzgerald*, you are family.

Just like the *Fitzgerald*, my unit in Iraq included men of many races and religions. We were a family, too, and it made us stronger.

Madam Speaker, what is true of our military is also true of our country. Lots of nations have democratic institutions, plenty of countries have good schools, and all too many, as we know, wield powerful weapons; but what makes America great, what makes America powerful, and what makes America America is that, since our founding, we have thrown our doors open to the world, and we have kept them open to the strivers and the dreamers from every corner of the globe.

We didn't become the greatest, most powerful country in the world because we let in a certain group of people and then slammed the door behind them. No, Madam Speaker, we built this country by making America the only country in the world where anyone from anywhere can accomplish anything.

President Reagan may have summed it up best when he explained that:

You can go to Japan to live but you cannot become Japanese. You can go to France to live and not become a

Frenchman. Anyone can come to America to live and become an American.

Unfortunately, our current President and his friends in Congress want to turn their backs on what made America great. Their anti-immigrant agenda will lead to the deportation of millions and drastic cuts in legal immigration.

The last time Congress restricted immigration in this way was almost 100 years ago. Back then, conservatives were worried that there were too many Italians and Jews who were arriving on our shores. Now, they are concerned about Mexican, Nigerian, and Chinese immigrants. The rhetoric may have shifted, the targets may have changed, but it is the same kind of backward, un-American thinking that existed then.

The American people are too smart for this. We don't fear people who don't speak like us or look like us or even pray the way we do. Time and time again, we have rejected the racists and the nativists of this country. We have done it before, and we will do it again.

Madam Speaker, I don't have to look at the polls to tell you that there are a lot more Americans like Aaron Chamberlin from Phoenix than like Donald Trump.

Aaron is a restaurant owner in Phoenix. When he learned that a young prep chef named Suny Santana was undocumented, Aaron said Suny could stay as long as he found a way to fix his undocumented status.

Thankfully, Suny qualified for DACA. He worked hard and thrived. In fact, he did so well that Aaron offered to partner with him in opening his very own new restaurant in downtown Phoenix. But then, cruelly and without warning, President Trump terminated DACA and stripped away Suny's status, throwing his entire life into limbo.

Democrats are fighting for Dreamers like Suny and for businessowners like Aaron who believe in them.

We are also fighting for veterans like Miguel Perez of Chicago. Miguel has lived in this country since he was 8 years old. He served two tours in Afghanistan and suffers from PTSD as a result of his service. Unfortunately, as is too often the case with us, this led to problems with addiction. Miguel deserves our support. Instead, he is facing deportation.

As I speak, Miguel is currently sitting in an ICE detention center in Kenosha, Wisconsin, which happens to be in the district of our Speaker, PAUL RYAN.

Miguel isn't alone. Hundreds of immigrants who served our country in uniform could now be deported at the behest of a President who has never served one day in service to this country. These are men and women who took an oath to protect and defend this Nation. They have earned the right to call this country home. They have earned the right to call themselves Americans. To deport these brave men and women after they have fought

under our flag dishonors the service of all of us who risked our lives for this country.

We must find a way to protect Dreamers and immigrant families, including brave immigrants who served in uniform. The American people are on our side. They know that Trump's fearful vision for our future is incompatible with who we are as Americans. They are proud to live in a country that attracts the brightest minds and the hardest workers from all around the world. They understand that exclusion and hate are the exact opposite of what makes America America.

This Nation did not become great by kicking out immigrants who fight hard like Miguel or who dream big like Suny. Unlike every other country on Earth, we aren't defined by where we come from, but we are defined by what we believe.

Donald Trump may not understand that, but the American people do.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GARRETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GARRETT. Madam Speaker, it is a somber time to come into this Chamber as we have colleagues at the other end of the building who formed something they call the Common Sense Coalition, which is, I think, a gentle euphemism like so many things in this town are, which might well be called the "kick the can down the road" coalition, the "doing the same thing again and again and again and again and expecting a different result" coalition, or the "those who do not learn from the past are doomed to repeat it" coalition.

The photo that is to my left and to your right if you are viewing at home is of me at a ceremony at Red Hill Farm in the Fifth District of Virginia, where a man named Patrick Henry lived.

Patrick Henry is notable as an early patriot who sought to ensure the blessings of self-determination and liberty for a fledgling nation that determined that it was unjust that they should be governed by edict from across the sea and most notably said the words: "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death."

Indeed, anyone who signed the Declaration of Independence understood at that time that they were literally signing their own death warrant, yet they did because it was the right thing to do.

Today we have degenerated into a political class that knows pandering and efforts to placate individuals without the interests of the mass constituency that we all unitedly serve, and that is the American people.

In fact, when Patrick Henry spoke about liberty one day in a separate speech, from the back of the room, someone shouted, "Treason," and Henry responded eloquently: "If this be treason, make the most of it."

What has happened to our leaders?

So that day I spoke to a group of a couple of dozen new Americans from every corner of the world—from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and South America—who had, in some instances, worked decades to become Americans and to earn those blessings of liberty gained for us by people like Patrick Henry, like 1 million nameless faces who died of combat death, disease, or starvation during a war to end the horrific institution of slavery, and like Abraham Lincoln and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

So they, indeed, looked like America—Brown people, White people, Black people, Asian people, American people—and they earned it. But what is coming out of the Senate now essentially throws aside the sacrifices of so many in order to score political points.

It was, indeed, one of the greatest honors of my life to welcome those new brothers and sisters to our American family. Yet the process through which they pained and labored does not in any way mirror the process that we would continue by kicking the can down the road under the proposed Senate "compromise."

I could really, literally, do this all day, all week, all month, and all year if I wanted to highlight the cases of individuals who had lost their lives because our Federal Government is completely unwilling to enforce the laws that it currently has on the books.

□ 1245

Many of you recognize the lovely face of Kate Steinle, who was enjoying a beautiful afternoon in the Embarcadero district of San Francisco on pier 14 with her dad. A graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, she worked in the medical field and had recently moved in with her boyfriend when an illegal who had been deported 5 times, who the local government refused to turn over to Federal authorities, discharged a weapon that he stole from a member of law enforcement at what he said was a sea lion—which is bad enough—and killed this lovely young woman whom her friends say loved yoga and helping others.

Reports indicate that among her last words was a plea to her father to please help. She passed away because we refuse to enforce our law.

Edwin Jackson, a linebacker for the Indianapolis Colts, was born in the same town that I was: Atlanta, Georgia. He didn't have big-time football offers out of high school. Indeed, instead of the University of Georgia or Florida or Clemson, he matriculated to Georgia Southern University. But he worked, and he worked with an optimism that radiated from the very smile on his face.