

One of the students, Mr. Speaker, from Maryland, Matt Post, spoke extraordinarily eloquently.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD his remarks.

My name is Matt Post. I'm a twelfth-grader, the Student Member of the Board for Montgomery County, and, I think, as students we need to make a few things clear.

To start, we will not sit in classrooms with armed teachers. We refuse to learn in fear. We reject turning our schools into prisons.

We will accept nothing less than stricter gun control. If it's what it takes, we are going to shame our national policymakers into protecting us, not just in schools but in churches, movie theaters, on the streets, and for the communities of color who are disproportionately devastated by the sickness of gun violence.

The lawmakers who fail to support us, those who look for every answer to our nation's gun problem but the guns themselves, are complicit in every single death that comes after. To every politician sitting in the Capitol behind us, you get to decide who lives.

And so, this is not a partisan issue for us. There's nothing cosmetic about life or death. This is about our basic morality as a country.

When the commander-in-chief's solution to this gun epidemic is more guns, you know we have a moral problem in the White House.

When national policymakers value the blood money of the NRA over the lives of children, you know we have a moral problem in the Halls in Congress.

And when this is doomed to happen again—when, in the coming weeks and months, more of my peers will be slaughtered in their own classrooms, when their deaths will be dismissed as collateral—you know we have a moral problem in this country.

So let's make one last thing clear: their right to own an assault rifle does not outweigh our right to live.

The adults have failed us. This is in our hands now. And if any elected official gets in our way, we will vote them out and replace them ourselves.

'Enough is Enough!'

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am not going to read the remarks in their entirety, but I do want to highlight one thing Matt had to say, which I thought was so profound.

He concluded his remarks by saying: "... their right to own an assault rifle does not outweigh our right to live."

His right to live is guaranteed by the Constitution as well.

There were many others like Matt, Mr. Speaker, other student leaders from our area, who stood up and spoke out and roused their peers to be engaged.

Along with Matt, I want to recognize Brenna Levitan; Eri Shay; Emily Dohler Rodas; Michael Solomon; Nate Tinbite; Christian Crawford; and a student from American University, who helped them organize, Aaron Thorp.

These student leaders, and their many peers who marched with them last week, deserve to be heard in the Halls of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we must not fail them.

Like the young leaders of generations ago, of centuries ago, a millennia

ago, these young leaders are calling to our conscience to take action, and we must not fail them.

We must not fail the students and teachers and parents of Great Mills High School in St. Mary's County; or Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; or Marshall County High School in Kentucky; or Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon; or Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut; or Virginia Tech; or Columbine; or any other school that has witnessed the carnage of a school shooting.

Mr. Speaker, we must take real action—action to make our schools and our communities safer from gun violence.

I am proud to stand with the young Americans who walked out—and I thank them for their passion and their advocacy—and who say they do not want to go to school and be afraid.

One young woman said the first thing she does when she goes to school now is to look for a place to hide.

Mr. Speaker, we must do better than that. I will continue to work closely with the community in Great Mills in the days and weeks ahead, as we try to heal and move forward.

But, Mr. Speaker, in order to do that, this body, the people's body, who raise our hand and swear an oath to the Constitution and the laws of our country, designed to create a more perfect Union, a Union in which the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is protected by the people's House, Mr. Speaker, let us act.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1100

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 11 a.m.

## PRAYER

Minister Jeremiah Tatum, Willow Avenue Church of Christ, Cookeville, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

Father in Heaven, we bow to You and praise You upon this, the beginning of spring. We are reminded that You are in control of all things, and it is by Your hand that they exist and were created.

Look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States. Be

Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. Direct them according to the instructions of Your holy word.

We humbly ask for Your care and patience. We request the revival of the spirit by which we were founded and have endured. We pray for Your guidance upon our President, his Cabinet, the Members of our Congress, and each and every person within our government. We pray for Your truth and love and peace to reign in our country and in our world.

In Jesus' name, amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. TROTT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TROTT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## WELCOMING MINISTER JEREMIAH TATUM

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to welcome Minister Jeremiah Tatum from Cookeville, Tennessee, to our Nation's Capital.

In Congress, we begin each day thanking the Lord for His provision

and asking for continued guidance, protection, and wisdom. It is a great privilege to have a fellow Tennessean lead us in this sacred tradition today.

Minister Tatum was born in Los Angeles County, California, and comes from seven consecutive generations of preachers. His call to ministry began 27 years ago, and he is currently serving his eighth year as the pulpit minister of Willow Avenue Church of Christ in Cookeville.

In addition to local work, Minister Tatum preaches abroad and serves overseas with foreign missions. He encourages young men to become preachers and believes he has the best job in the world. Our community is so grateful for his service.

He is married to Amber, and they have three children: Luke, Daniel, and LyssaBeth. I know his family and the Willow Avenue congregation are very proud to have him with us today, and I thank him for opening our day in prayer.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 24TH ANNUAL VERA HOUSE WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

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

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Domestic violence affects people from all backgrounds. Regardless of race, religion, and socioeconomic background, domestic abuse touches all aspects of our community.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, nearly 20 people per minute are assaulted by an intimate partner. We must work together to stop this.

Central New York is home to Vera House, a wonderful organization that works to prevent and respond to domestic and sexual violence. This month, it kicked off its 24th annual White Ribbon Campaign in central New York. This campaign raises awareness for the need to put an end to domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Throughout the duration of the White Ribbon Campaign, thousands of central New Yorkers, such as myself, will be wearing a white ribbon or a white wristband to stand in solidarity against abuse.

I urge my House colleagues to join me in wearing a white ribbon to demonstrate a personal pledge to work towards preventing violence against men, women, and children.

#### PROTECT THE MUELLER INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, make no mistake about it: through their words and actions, President Trump and his allies are doing everything they can to destroy the independent investigation of Special Counsel Robert Mueller through provocative tweets: a witch hunt;

Through reckless actions: firing Director Comey and Assistant Director McCabe; and

Through provocative statements: his personal attorney calling for an end to the investigation.

The question, Mr. Speaker, is not what the President wants to do or may do. The question is: Will Congress do what it must do, which is protect the Mueller investigation?

A number of us have a bill that would do just that. Our bill would require a three-judge panel to approve any dismissal of Mr. Mueller.

Mr. Speaker, no American is above the law, no Member of Congress is above the law, and no member of the executive branch is above the law, including President Trump.

Mr. Speaker, let the House vote on our bill. Make each one of us be accountable to our constituents on the rule of law.

Will we vote to protect the Mueller investigation or will we acquiesce to the President's threats and temper tantrums?

Mr. Speaker, let us vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM PULTE, SR.

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

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William Pulte, Sr. He passed away earlier this month at the age of 85.

In 1950, at the age of 18, Bill Pulte started building and selling homes in southeast Michigan. In 1956, he founded Pulte Homes, known today as the Pulte Group. Over the next 50 years, he grew the company into the largest homebuilder in the United States.

Bill Pulte was a legend in the business world, but his legacy is one of great devotion to his family and community. He was involved with the Angel Fund, a group which anonymously provides families in Detroit with shelter. His philanthropy helped Cornerstone Schools provide thousands of young people in Detroit with a great education, and his passion for homebuilding took him all the way to Central America to help its poorest communities.

So it is most appropriate that we pause today from our Nation's business to remember and celebrate the life of Bill Pulte. His hard work, devotion, and vision changed the world for the better, and for that, we thank him.

#### UCR VETERANS PROJECT

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, the Riverside National Cemetery is the final resting place for nearly 300,000 former military personnel and their family members. Each of them have a story that deserves to be told.

I rise today to applaud the University of California, Riverside, on a new grant that will be used to research and tell these stories.

With support from the Department of Veterans Affairs, UC Riverside faculty and students will document the lives of those who served and partner with K-12 schools to help teach young people about the value of service and sacrifice. Our duty to honor those who sacrificed for this Nation is not limited to Memorial Day or Veterans Day.

This project will help our community understand and appreciate the individuals whose service has kept this Nation safe and free. I am proud that UC Riverside has been selected for this important initiative and look forward to seeing the meaningful work it will produce.

#### AMELIA EARHART CONTINUES TO INSPIRE

(Ms. JENKINS of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Amelia Earhart, one of the most iconic aviators in history, became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, which launched her to national notoriety and inspired millions to follow. Highlighting her contributions to aviation, yesterday, the House passed the Amelia Earhart U.S. Post Office Act, which names her hometown post office in Atchison, Kansas, after her.

While she was lost at sea, that wasn't the end of the Amelia Earhart story. A woman's aviation group, the Ninety-Nines, which she founded, still exists today and advocates for female pilots in the industry. Amelia's legacy soars as high as ever as she continues to inspire new generations of women to reach for greater heights.

Please join me in celebrating the life of Amelia Earhart.

#### CHILD CARE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, a typical Rhode Island family with an infant