

Cities Habitat well prepared to achieve the ambitious Impact 2020 strategic plan, which aims to double its impact on our community by partnering with 500 families by 2020.

Sue Haigh's career exemplifies the very best in public service. Prior to her leadership of Twin Cities Habitat, Sue worked tirelessly to improve lives within Ramsey County as an elected commissioner. Her passion for putting people to work and building a better future resulted in major infrastructure planning and development projects. Sue was later appointed by Governor Mark Dayton to serve as the chair of the Metropolitan Council, where she led a 30-year planning vision called Thrive MSP 2040, invested millions of dollars in grants to cities, and helped to open the Green Line LRT, a light rail transit system which has vastly exceeded rider projections and sparked billions in additional private investment.

A passion and dedication to serving others defines Sue Haigh's career. Whether working in government or in non-profit organizations, Sue always brings her creativity and tenacity to the job, creating unique and long-lasting partnerships that benefit the entire Twin Cities Metropolitan region.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the exceptional career of Susan Haigh, a community leader who has done so much, for so many.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll call No. 183. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 183, I would have voted 'YEA'.

SHARING STUDENTS' MARCH FOR OUR LIVES REMARKS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, I came to the Floor and spoke about the March For Our Lives on March 24 and the nine extraordinarily poised students in Morristown, New Jersey, who spoke at the rally there, which I attended. I include in the RECORD remarks by Luna Aguilar. I hope my colleagues will read them and internalize the sense of fear in which our nation's students are living every day—and our responsibility as Members of Congress to do something to address this crisis of gun violence.

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES REMARKS BY LUNA AGUILAR

Every month, every week, every day we hear about a hate-filled person, usually a white-supremacist man, getting a gun to kill others without mercy. We are here today because the shooting at Stoneman Douglas high school in Florida hurts all of us, and we will not take this anymore!

The students who were murdered in Florida, and many more who are killed by gun violence throughout our country, had dreams to fulfill in the rest of their lives. They were

robbed of their dreams because our country allows nineteen-year-olds to legally own weapons of destruction, and we let one man kill seventeen innocent lives. Teachers and faculty at schools across the country have given up their lives to protect their students from mass murderers, and now that is their legacy. But they should not have to be mourned as martyrs. They should be remembered as teachers, heroes who educated the future generation.

We, as a nation, have decided that we value gun ownership without adequate background checks, without limits, more than the lives of our youth. But we, the youth, the future of our country, are deciding, right here, right now, that our lives are worth more than the right to own an assault weapon.

This same outrage should have pushed a change of policy on guns after Columbine, Sandy Hook, Orlando, and Las Vegas. This outrage should have supported the victims of excessive police force in Ferguson. Stephen Clark was shot twenty times in his grandmother's yard while unarmed just two days ago. Are we speaking up for him too? This outrage should be heard in response to the deaths of immigrants at the hands of border patrol agents. African Americans, Latinos, immigrants, members of the LGBTQIA community are all subject to gun violence in our neighborhoods, and we must speak up for them too. This will not be an exclusive fight. We are targeted because of the color of our skin, because of our religion, because of who we are. Undocumented immigrants already fear having their families torn apart by ICE, and they also fear of dying at the hands of an extremist. Marginalized women also fear for their lives. We will not live in fear any longer!

We must not succumb to fear and make our schools into prison-like settings. We cannot arm our teachers. We cannot fill our schools with officers that feed the school to prison pipeline! More guns and more oppression is not the answer. I am trained in Alternatives to Violence. This is an international program that started right here in New York state prisons to address violence in a compassionate way. In our youth program with Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center, we learn nonviolent communication and restorative justice. If we taught this in our schools, and in our communities, we would increase the level of safety for everyone. If we had more social workers in our schools, we would be healthier, safer. We should invest our resources into the well-being of students so no one ever feels the need to hurt others. We need social workers, not police. Why are we as a nation so violent, so hateful? Restorative justice is proven to work, and we are more than capable of implementing this into our school systems.

Other countries have one occurrence of gun violence, and they act on it immediately. Thoughts and prayers are welcome in these devastating times, but they must be followed by action, legislation, and prevention measures. Why has our government refused to act? AR-15s should not be in the hands of any civilian in this country. Congress needs to ban these machines that serve no other purpose than to kill as many individuals as possible within a matter of seconds. Our nation must raise the age of owning a gun to twenty-one. Thorough background checks that bar individuals with a violent history, particularly those with domestic violence histories, must be part of the process of owning a gun. We must enforce red-flag laws, laws that allow for the removal of weapons from people who have been flagged for past violence.

I've been to marches to support undocumented immigrants. I participated in the vigil for Heather Heyer, who was murdered

during the Charlottesville protests. I've been to the Women's March to fight against sexism and to stand up with my fellow sisters of all backgrounds. I stand here today denouncing gun violence because marching and demanding change works! We are a youth-led movement and we will not stop until we succeed in keeping guns out of the hands of murderers.

I am only sixteen, and I am already tired of standing up for what is right while legislators sit and do nothing! When will it be enough? Why must I continue to scream at Congress and at our society to prove that I matter? Why are legislators responding to the gun lobby instead of us? What will it take for us to see each other as human beings that are worth more than property or profits? This march is just the beginning of long-overdue conversations, and of work too long left undone. We must continue to fight, and to fight for everyone.

We must speak out. Say it with me so that our legislators in our towns, in Trenton, and in Washington, DC, hear our call: I'm going to say: shatter the silence. And you respond with: stop the violence. Shatter the silence. Stop the violence. Shatter the silence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote on 4/16/2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 140 and YEA on Roll Call No. 141.

SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week we marked up H.R. 1911, the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism. All of the Co-Chairs of the Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-Semitism are co-sponsors of the bipartisan H.R. 1911—including four members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, ELIOT ENGEL, BRAD SCHNEIDER, and TED DEUTCH—which I authored to advance the fight against the ancient, persistent evil of anti-Semitism, whenever and wherever it occurs in the world.

So far 80 members have cosponsored the bill, including 25 members of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Many leading Jewish organizations also support the legislation.

My friend, the great former Soviet refusenik and religious prisoner, Natan Sharansky, testified at two of the nine hearings I have chaired on anti-Semitism. He proposed what he called a simple test to help us distinguish legitimate criticism of Israel from anti-Semitism. Sharansky called it the "three Ds: Demonization, double standard, and de-legitimization."

Rabbi Andy Baker, Director for International Jewish Affairs for American Jewish Committee and Personal Representative of the OSCE