

We cannot afford another moment of silence, because silence kills. What we need is a moment of action to save the American people from killing themselves with American guns and American bullets.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD this list of moments of silence observed in the House since the Newtown shooting. It is compiled by the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. There are 43 of them, moments of silence, and nothing done to save the American people from the gun lobby and the NRA.

MOMENTS OF SILENCE OBSERVED ON THE HOUSE FLOOR RELATED TO GUN VIOLENCE

December 14, 2012—May 21, 2018

Date, Topic of Moment of Silence.
 12/17/12, Moment of Silence in Memory of Victims of Connecticut Shooting.
 2/27/13, Chardon 1-Year Anniversary.
 3/6/13, Honoring the Lives of Sergeant Lorán “Butch” Baker and Detective Elizabeth Butler.
 7/19/13, Aurora Remembrance.
 7/24/13, Moment of Silence in Memory of Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson.
 9/17/13, Moment of Silence in Tribute to the 12 Navy Yard Shooting Victims.
 1/8/14, Moment of Silence on Anniversary of Shooting Victims in Tucson, Arizona.
 4/3/14, Moment of Silence and Prayer for the Fort Hood Shooting Victims, their Families, and the Community.
 5/28/14, Moment of Silence in Memory of the Victims of the Santa Barbara, California, Tragedy.
 6/9/14, Moment of Silence to Honor the Victims of the June 8, 2014, Las Vegas Shooting.
 6/10/14, Moment of Silence for Victims of Reynolds High School Shooting.
 7/22/14, Domestic Violence.
 7/24/14, Moment of Silence in Memory of Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson.
 7/30/14, Moment of Silence for Victims of Clackamas Mall Shooting.
 11/20/14, Moment of Silence for the Victims at Marysville-Pilchuck High School.
 1/8/15, Moment of Silence on Tucson Shootings’ 4-Year Anniversary.
 5/12/15, Moment of Silence In Honor of Officers Liquori Tate and Benjamin Deen of Hattiesburg, Mississippi.
 6/23/15, Moment of Silence For Victims of Shooting at Emanuel AME Church, Charleston, South Carolina.
 7/21/15, Moment of Silence For Servicemembers Killed in Chattanooga, Tennessee.
 7/27/15, Moment of Silence for Lafayette Shooting Victims.
 9/8/2015, Moment of Prayer for Allison Parker and Adam Ward (Roanoke).
 9/10/15, Moment of Silence Honoring Deputy Darren Goforth, Harris County Sheriffs Office.
 10/6/2015, Moment of Silence Honoring Victims of Umpqua Community College Tragedy.
 12/2/2015, Moment of Silence Honoring Victims of Colorado Springs Shooting.
 12/16/2015, Moment of Silence Honoring Victims of the San Bernardino Terrorist Act.
 1/8/2016, Moment of Silence Remembering the Fifth Anniversary of the Shooting in Arizona.
 2/23/2016, Moment of Silence For the Victims of Kalamazoo Shootings.
 3/1/2016, Moment of Silence for the Victims of Kansas Shootings.
 6/14/2016, Moment of Silence for the Victims of the Orlando Shooting.
 7/8/2016, Moment of Silence for the Victims of the Dallas Shooting.

1/5/2017, Moment of Silence to Commemorate Sixth Anniversary of Shooting in Tucson.

1/9/2017, Moment of Silence for Law Enforcement Officer Killed on Law Enforcement Officer Day (*includes same shooting).

1/9/2017, Moment of Silence in Recognition of Victims of the Two Most Recent Tragedies in Ft Lauderdale and Orlando (*includes same shooting).

1/9/2017, Moment of Silence Honoring Law Enforcement Officers Killed in Orlando (*includes same shooting).

2/27/2017, Moment of Silence in Remembrance of Kansas Shooting Victims.

4/5/2017, Moment of Silence Remembering Virginia Tech Victims.

7/18/2017, Moment of Silence Honoring Officer Miosotis Familia and State Trooper Joel Davis.

7/24/2017, Moment of Silence in Memory of Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson.

10/2/2017, Moment of Silence in Memory of the Victims of the Attack in Las Vegas.

11/6/2017, Moment of Silence in Memory of the Victims of the Attack in Sutherland Springs, TX.

1/8/2018, Moment of Silence Commemorating Seventh Anniversary of the Shooting in Tucson, Arizona.

1/29/2018, Moment of Silence Honoring Marshall County High School Shooting Victims.

2/26/2018, Moment of Silence Honoring Those Killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

3/13/2018, Moment of Silence for the Three Victims of Gun Violence at the Veterans Home of California-Yountville.

4/25/2018, Moment of Silence for Fallen Gilchrest Law Enforcement Officers.

4/26/2018, Moment of Silence for the Victims and Hero of Waffle House Mass Shooting.

LET US REMEMBER THE FALLEN THIS MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, many of us in this House will attend Memorial Day ceremonies over the weekend. I actually had four over this past weekend. I was privileged and honored to be there as we honor those who have died in the service of this great Nation to defend our rights and our liberties.

Observed on the last Monday of May, Memorial Day is one of America’s most solemn occasions. The traditional Memorial Day dates back to 1864, in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, not too far from my home in Centre County, Pennsylvania’s Fifth Congressional District, as the birthplace of Memorial Day. Three ladies decorated the graves of fallen Civil War soldiers, and the custom has continued every year since then.

Boalsburg still puts on a traditional Memorial Day celebration complete with a parade, a community walk to the cemetery, speeches, military enactments, and much more.

On Memorial Day, communities across the country will pay tribute to our fallen veterans who never returned home. Many of us will gather with family members and friends and neighbors as we keep those we lost in our hearts.

So as we raise the Stars and Stripes, as we lay wreaths at monuments, memorials, and cemeteries, let us remember that our freedom is thanks to those who died and served in sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day weekend also marks the ninth year that the National Endowment of the Arts and Blue Star Families begins Blue Star Museums. This program provides free admission to our Nation’s Active-Duty military personnel this summer from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend of 2018.

This is an initiative of the National Endowment of the Arts in collaboration with Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums nationwide, including children’s museums, fine art museums, history and science museums, zoos, and nature centers.

Blue Star Museums are one way our Nation’s museums can express appreciation to our military for their service and share with them America’s cultural treasures. Blue Star Museums also provide a way for military families to feel connected to their community, especially for those families that have recently relocated through a change of station.

Blue Star Families build communities that support military families by connecting research and data to programs and solutions, including career development tools, local community events for families, and caregiver support. Since 2009, Blue Star Families have engaged tens of thousands of volunteers and served more than 1.5 million military family members.

Mr. Speaker, Blue Star Families will be celebrating with every American this weekend as we commemorate Memorial Day in honor of so many who are no longer with us. May God bless them, and may God bless the United States of America.

I WILL NOT GO ALONG TO GET ALONG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, once again I rise as a person who loves this country. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a person who refuses to go along to get along. I rise as a person who will speak truth to power and truth about power.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, because in our country, our children are being murdered in schools. Our children are prognosticating that eventually it will come to the school that they happen to attend. Our children are concerned about their safety in what should be one of the safest places for them on Earth: the schools that they attend.

I rise, Mr. Speaker, because there are parents who have sent their children to school and never have had them to come home again. I rise because these parents are suffering, because our Nation is suffering. There is great pain within the population.