PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER
OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, 2018, during debate on H.R. 6784, the Manage our Wolves Act, I voted incorrectly on Roll Call Vote No. 420. My vote should have been cast as 'NO.'

H. RES. 1138 PASSAGE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be an original cosponsor of House Resolution 1138, and I wholeheartedly support its passage.

H. Res. 1138 condemns the heinous anti-Semitic attack on the building housing three congregations, Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania that resulted in the deaths of 11 innocent people. The resolution honors the memory of the victims of the attack, as well as offers condolences to and expresses support for their families, friends, and community.

I am saddened and outraged by this hateful act. Unfortunately, anti-Semitic incidents have been on the rise—increasing 57 percent in 2017. This horrific shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue is yet another manifestation of this ancient hatred.

Congress stands united in condemning the deadly attack on the Tree of Life synagogue, remembering all who were taken from us on that fateful day, and wishing speedy recovery for those who survived. Last week, Members of Congress passed this bill, not as Republicans or Democrats, but as Americans who oppose intolerance.

The freedom to worship is a core principle of this nation—one that our forefathers enshrined in our Constitution to protect us all from undue prosecution. As a Jewish Member of Congress, I stand ready to fiercely defend the right of all Americans to freely exercise their religious beliefs. With anti-Semitism on the rise, we must redouble our efforts to eradicate it at home and abroad.

I pray for the victims of the Tree of Life shooting and their families, and I know that our community will work to promote religious tolerance and freedom everywhere.