

order to transform their habits. Healthy habits are not always easily achievable when a patient is working alone, but health coaches are there to ensure people succeed in taking control of their health issues.

That is why, earlier in February, Congressman MULLIN and I introduced a bipartisan resolution to express our support for health and wellness coaches. I am proud of our work together as co-chairs of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus, and I encourage my colleagues to join us in recognizing America's health and wellness coaches.

METHANE RELIEF ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, in 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the New Source Performance Standards for the oil and natural gas industry to further regulate methane emissions. Thankfully, the EPA is revisiting this regulation in an effort to provide flexibility and relief moving forward.

For many small oil and gas producers, these requirements contained in the original regulation are simply unworkable and overly burdensome.

For example, the regulation would even apply to wells that produce less than 15 barrels of oil and less than 90,000 cubic feet of natural gas per day. Because these wells produce at low volumes, the profit margin remains tight for the operators.

However, under the original rule, these low-volume producers would be subject to expensive upgrades, additional reporting requirements and administrative costs in order to comply with the regulation.

Madam Speaker, today I introduced H.R. 1391, the Methane Relief Act of 2019, which would exempt these low-volume wells from the rule's requirements. Doing so will allow for commonsense regulatory relief and certainty for these smaller operators which account for an important part of our domestic energy industry.

AN ACTUAL NATIONAL EMERGENCY

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address an actual national emergency. There are too many damn guns in America, and far too many lives have been lost. Last year alone 40,000 Americans were fatally shot, the most in 50 years.

My county suffers from gun violence on a near-daily basis. In the last 5 years, we have lost 370 people to gun violence; 127 of these victims were children.

Recently, a pregnant mother was killed, and her teenage daughter in-

jured in a senseless shooting. The family had already lost a relative to gun violence.

Almost as shocking as these statistics, for 25 years Congress failed to pass significant gun control legislation until today. I am comforted by how swiftly House Democrats began tackling this crisis, and pray that the Senate finds the courage to follow our lead.

American voters sent us an urgent message last November; thoughts and prayers and moments of silence are not enough. Let us reassure them that passing the Background Checks Act of 2019 is just the first step of many more to come; and we won't stop until this national emergency is over.

THE TEXAS SKY HAS A NEW STAR

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, we all know an iconic Texas song: "The stars at night are big and bright, deep in the heart of Texas."

The sky of Texas has a new star, the brightest star ever. Her name is Marlee Hope Pack. She is glowing right beside me.

After a courageous fight with childhood cancer, God called Marlee home on February 23. Marlee's cancer would not be stopped. Her dad, Bill, kept asking Marlee: What is your wish with Make-A-Wish?

After a few weeks, sweet Marlee answered: "Dad, if I have to think about it this hard, I don't need a wish."

Marlee turned Make-A-Wish into make a gift. She opened Marlee's Bear Workshop and partnered with Build-A-Bear to give kids with cancer teddy bears and hope.

Thank you, Bill and Shelly, and all who loved Marlee for giving us such a special person. She made our world better.

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175TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE FROM HAITI

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 175th anniversary of Dominican independence and the birth of the first country I call home.

On February 27, 1844, the founding fathers of the Dominican Republic, great statesmen and lovers of freedom and democracy, raised the flag of a new republic in Santo Domingo and proclaimed their independence from Haiti, bringing another democratic republic into the family of nations.

In the words of Dominican icon and independence leader Juan Pablo Duarte: "Love of country led us to make sacred commitments with the

next generation," and the commitments that he and his fellow patriots made 175 years ago live on in the hearts of every Quisqueyano, whether they are still on the island of their birth or whether they have made a new home abroad.

Today is the day for all of us to celebrate the contributions of the Dominican people, just as my compatriots celebrate their independence throughout the country.

RECOGNIZING JALISA PETERSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Jalisa Peterson from Liberty County High School on being a finalist for the 2019 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

One of 29,000 students across the country who participated, Ms. Peterson was one of only eight high school students acknowledged in the State of Georgia for exceptional projects of community service. Specifically, she volunteered at a local orphanage, playing games, crafting art, reading, and building relationships with children, all the way from newborns to 18-year-olds.

I am very proud of Ms. Peterson's work and glad to have someone like her in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

I am glad to see this award is encouraging more community service, a crucial aspect in order to make our world a better place to live.

GUN VIOLENCE: WE NEED TO DO MORE

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

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Madam Speaker, we just voted on H.R. 8. It is the first gun control measure we have taken up in years. It is progress, but we still have so far to go. There are so many lives that have been taken from too many communities.

On February 15 in Aurora, Illinois, on the edge of my district, that was the community where a man with a gun took five innocent lives: Trevor Wehner, Clayton Parks, Vicente Juarez, Russell Beyer, and Josh Pinkard.

They were fathers, brothers, sons, uncles, friends, and they joined a long line of Americans who have been going about their daily lives and got killed.

Here is what is really sickening: Most of the Members of this body don't even know their names. A week from now, you are going to forget their names, and you are going to replace them with another set of names, not because they don't deserve to be remembered, but because every day in America, 100 people get shot.