

from that felon," endangering our local law enforcement.

This would plug that loophole.

The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization passed April 4. No action in the Senate. And, for the first time in 20 years, we are going to do some research on gun violence. There are other bills we should be doing.

In my State, we have adopted red flag laws. And over here, they say, well, we can't have red flag laws for abusers because of their constitutional rights.

Well, we have set it up in a way that we have had 160 petitions for red flag restrictions. Most of them—actually, the majority—were for people at risk of suicide; and then a minority were for abusive relationships, and 32 of those were denied by a judge.

Due process was followed, but lives were saved. But, no, we can't take that.

Bump stocks, we banned fully automatic weapons decades ago. Bump stocks, essentially, turn a semiautomatic into a very inaccurate, nearly full automatic in terms of ready to fire. But if you are shooting at a stadium full of people, it doesn't matter how inaccurate it is; you are going to hit a lot of people.

We can't even bring up legislation—or, well, the Republicans won't support legislation to ban bump stocks, hate crimes legislation, the list goes on.

Just one other quick issue. You can go online to armslist.com, and if you are not eligible to buy a gun, you can get one. It is very evident that, in study after study done, that many of the people selling guns on armslist.com are felons and not allowed to own firearms, and they will sell to other felons. It will say: No background check necessary. Will cross State lines—all sorts of things like that.

All those things need to be banned. Those are commonsense gun violence reforms.

And, in this week, just, really, this week, National Gun Violence Survivors Week, let's do something to end the bloodshed.

RECOGNIZING THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS, SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS, AND BOB DOLE

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, much like America's great comeback that President Trump described at his State of the Union message last night, this past Sunday, my team, the Kansas City Chiefs, had a miracle comeback victory in the fourth quarter of Super Bowl LIV.

After 50 years, the Chiefs are once again Super Bowl champions. As a born-and-raised Chiefs fan, watching them win the title was a dream come true.

Of course, we all saw the game, but just before it started something happened that you may have missed. Dur-

ing the singing of the national anthem, just past the end zone, my mentor and friend, 96-year-old Senator Bob Dole, who was seriously wounded during his service in World War II, insisted on standing up out of his wheelchair during the performance. And with a little help, that is exactly what he did.

In an age when people can't even agree in honoring our flag, it is powerful to see one of our Nation's greatest heroes from our Greatest Generation continue to show us the way.

Thank you, Senator Dole, for your patriotism and love of country.

And congratulations to my Super Bowl champions, the Kansas City Chiefs.

CHAOS AT THE IOWA CAUCUS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, we all saw the Iowa caucus and the chaos that Democrats are offering—chaos, along with higher taxes and Medicare for all that takes away the insurance that you get at your job.

As Senate Majority Leader MCCONNELL said yesterday, these same Democrats who want to take over everyone's healthcare and micromanage the entire economy couldn't even organize their own traditional Iowa caucuses.

Contrast this to last night at the State of the Union message when President Trump talked about the strongest economy of our lifetimes, including record job and wage growth. We saw how the President wants to bring us together to deliver even more results, more trade deals for Kansas, and a safer, more secure America. You can count on me that I will be standing beside him to help deliver those results.

The Democrats offer chaos, higher taxes, and poverty. President Trump and the Republicans offer prosperity, hope, and security.

CREATING A PROGRAM WITHIN THE VA TO GIVE VETERANS ACCESS TO SERVICE DOGS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, tonight the House will vote to pass the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act, which will create a program within the VA to give veterans access to treatment by working with service dogs.

Midwest Battle Buddies is an organization based in Kansas that works with veterans who are suffering from PTSD or other service-related issues. The veterans are paired with a dog and attend weekly sessions to train the dogs. Once the training is completed, the dogs become their service dogs.

According to Chip Neumann, president of the organization, therapy dogs provide veterans unconditional love. They do not judge their owners when they have breakdowns from stress or external triggers and can react and intervene if the veteran is having an episode and can often prevent them from spiraling out of control.

There is just something wonderful about dogs, as we all know.

The training sessions also act as mini therapy sessions, as veterans realize they are with others dealing with the same issues.

Midwest Battle Buddies has seen the possible impact service dog therapy can have for our cherished veterans.

I look forward to passing the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act to extend access to service dog therapy throughout the VA, to provide the best treatment for America's veterans.

HONORING GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS' WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Gun Violence Survivors Week because I, too, am a survivor.

This week, just a month into the new year, there will have been more gun deaths in the United States than our peer countries will experience in an entire year—one month.

I wear black today. I wear black all week long to stand for every survivor, every victim, every family that mourns the unnecessary gun deaths that happen each and every single day.

I met earlier this week with Mary Miller-Strobel, whose brother, Ben, was a combat veteran suffering from depression and PTSD. Ben had lost 30 pounds after his tour. Returning home, his father asked him about his weight loss. Ben replied that he couldn't eat, and he said: "It's just so hard out there, Dad. It smells like death."

Ben was seeking treatment at a local VA hospital, but his family continued to worry about him. They worried that, in a moment of desperation, Ben might end his own life.

Mary and her father drove to every gun store in their area. At each store, they showed photos of Ben, pleading with them not to sell him a gun.

Ben Miller died by suicide. He used a gun that he bought at a local gun store.

Too often we are told that we must accept these tragedies. We are told that, instead of changing our laws, we must have more active shooter drills, more first graders coming home with tears in their eyes, 6-year-olds asked to decide for themselves whether they are more likely to survive by hiding in a closet or if they should rush the gunman; more mothers reading messages from their children as they are locked inside a school and they are pleading: Mom, if I don't make it, I love you, and I appreciate everything that you have done for me; more vigils each and every day for those that we continue to lose.

Too often, we are told that we must accept these tragedies. I refuse to accept that. Millions of Americans across the country refuse to accept that. This Congress should refuse to accept that.

We refuse to accept that, because we have passed bipartisan legislation that will help save lives, legislation like the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, a commonsense bill that will keep guns away from those who should not have them.

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We have passed H.R. 1112, the Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019, which would close the Charleston loophole.

We have passed a bill that gives the CDC and the NIH \$25 million to study gun violence, the first of its kind in over 20 years.

I have even introduced a bill that would give loved ones and law enforcement more tools to keep guns away from those who are a danger to themselves or to others; tools that may have helped Mary save her brother, Ben's life.

With every unnecessary shooting, we continue to feel the weight of this injustice; and I personally know that sense of injustice.

When my son, Jordan, was killed, I found myself asking America, how could you allow this to happen to my child, my family, to my Jordan? And after Parkland, I knew that this country needed to stand up and to do something about it.

I knew that I had something that I had to do, and I knew that I needed to stand up for families like mine in Marietta, Georgia, who are terrified that their children will not come home from school, and they are terrified of being me.

So I made a promise to my community that I would act. And I promised that I would take all the love and the support and protection that I had given to my child and use it to serve the American people. I promised I would always be a mother on a mission to save the lives of children from across America, children like my son.

During this Gun Violence Survivors Week, I pray that we all remember that this is in our hands. Families like Mary's, children graduating from high school, communities in Charleston, in Columbine, in Parkland, in Sandy Hook, in Dayton, in El Paso, in Las Vegas, in the hundreds of places where shooters and shootings don't even make the news. Their lives are in our hands.

I thank my colleagues, and survivors, and volunteers, and advocates across this country for their tireless work to protect our families.

May God bless us all in this fight to save American lives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OFFICER ALAN MCCOLLUM

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

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor and to mourn the loss of one of Corpus Christi Police Department's finest, Officer Alan McCollum, who was tragically killed in the line of duty.

President Ronald Reagan once said: "There can be no more noble vocation than the protection of one's fellow citizens."

Officer McCollum was a compassionate, devoted, and admired public servant who dutifully worked to keep south Texas safe.

Before serving as a police officer, Officer McCollum served 21 years in the U.S. Army, earning the Bronze Star and numerous other accolades. Following the Army, his service to others continued by joining the Corpus Christi Police Department in 2013, where he was a valued member of the Honor Guard and SWAT team.

Last year, he once again demonstrated his willingness to sacrifice his own safety for others by helping push an overturned car back on its wheels after it had caught fire, saving the life of the driver.

On Saturday, Officer McCollum paid the ultimate price, sacrificing himself, while upholding the rule of law.

Scripture tells us that the Lord is near to the brokenhearted and those who are crushed in spirit. Right now, so many of us, in Texas, the Corpus Christi Police Department, and the family of Officer McCollum, are brokenhearted.

Our prayers are for his family and friends touched by this tragedy, and especially his wife of 12 years, Michelle, and his three daughters, Hannah, Carissa, and Lilianna, would feel the Lord near them during this difficult time. I extend my deepest condolences to them during this extremely difficult time.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF OFFICER MICHAEL LOVE

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, this week, I had the opportunity to visit Corpus Christi Police Officer Michael Love in the hospital as he recovers from injuries he sustained in the line of duty.

Over the weekend, he was conducting a routine traffic stop when his patrol vehicle was struck, pinning him down.

I had heard from many of his fellow officers of his optimistic and indomitable spirit, which I had the opportunity to witness firsthand when I visited him and his wife, Lauren, in the hospital. He told me that, despite everything he is going through, even knowing the months of recovery that lie ahead, he would still sign up to serve our community as a Corpus Christi police officer.

We cannot express our gratitude enough for his sacrifice and his bravery.

We must continue to pray for the safety of all our first responders, and support them as they protect us, as well as their families, who they hug a little bit tighter every day as they face the dangers that lie ahead.

We are thankful for the loving, brave, and patriotic man that is Officer Michael Love, and for those who serve with him.

GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me say that my heart hurts for my colleague and my sister, LUCY MCBATH, as she confronts on a daily basis the pain of our failure to act on sensible gun safety legislation.

I rise today, as many of my colleagues will, almost one year since the House took the steps to curb violence by passing H.R. 8, a bill that has yet to receive any consideration in the Senate.

We are in the middle of Gun Violence Survivors Week. Yet, despite survivors' calls for action; despite the calls of parents and friends who have lost loved ones to guns; despite the calls from our young people who just want to be safe in school; and despite our calls of the communities who want to be safe in their homes, we have yet to get H.R. 8, or any other gun violence bill considered in the Senate.

The paralysis around preventing gun violence is disgusting, and it is deadly. This story line that preventing people from buying assault weapons or stockpiling ammunition is somehow infringing upon their rights is deeply hurtful, and it is wrong thinking.

Including suicides by guns, there were 177 deaths on New Year's Day alone. There were three mass shootings, and the lives lost included three children between the ages of 12 and 17. That's just one day, the first day of this year. Yet, Republicans in the Senate continue to refuse to move any bill that might keep more families from getting that phone call.

There are so many options available to us. There is the baseline, bipartisan bill, like, H.R. 8, that we have already passed in the House. There are bills that would go even further, like my own Handgun Licensing and Registration Act of 2019, and the Stop Online Ammunition Sales Act of 2019.

One would require registration for handgun purchases, just like the government requires registration and basic standards for voting, operating a vehicle, even opening a business. It would ensure accountability and allow enforcement to identify threats.

The other places a very basic principle into law; that you shouldn't be able to stockpile bullets without ID or without law enforcement being aware.

Mr. Speaker, there are bills that would keep guns out of the hands of violent criminals, and bills that would push us to study gun violence as the health crisis it is. So far, none of these seem to be good enough for most of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, or the other side of the Capitol.

We are approaching a point from which we cannot return, where failure to act will normalize gun violence in our schools, in our neighborhoods, and in our society.

The survivors that we honor today, the families of those we have lost, and the countless Americans who wonder if they might be next deserve so much more from us.