

as Fortney, Hannah, and Andrew; his eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and the entire Stark family that so many mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members and guests in the gallery to rise for a moment of silence.

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Gun Violence Survivors Week.

At a field hearing in my district last November, we heard from Pastor Brenda Mitchell, who lost both her brother and a son to gun violence. After her son's death, Pastor Mitchell experienced hypertension, and the trauma forced her to leave a successful career behind.

According to the Gun Violence Archive, which tracks gun violence statistics, there have been 862 deaths in my district since 2013, 862 families who have experienced the trauma of losing a loved one to gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to stand up to the empty minds, the empty hearts, and the empty suits of the gun lobby and send H.R. 8 to the President's desk.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY RICHARD WHITTEN

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Liberty County Sheriff's Deputy Richard Whitten, who succumbed to complications of a gunshot wound.

On May 29, 2019, Deputy Whitten was off duty when he heard a "shots fired" call over the dispatch. Responding without hesitation, he drove to the scene. After a brief pursuit, Deputy Whitten was shot in the neck by the murder suspect, paralyzing him instantly.

After visiting with him and his wife, Kami, in the hospital last July, he told me that he would do it all over again to protect his community and his citizens.

On February 3, 2020, Deputy Whitten suffered a complication while undergoing physical therapy and passed away. He served with the Liberty County Sheriff's Office for 4 years, and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank a real hero, Deputy Richard Whitten, for his faithful service.

Thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN FORTNEY "PETE" STARK

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, we lost a devoted public servant with the recent passing of our dear friend, Representative Pete Stark.

As a student at Mills College during the early 1970s, I was president of the Black Student Union, and Pete helped me with many of my organizing efforts. He was also the very first Member of Congress I voted for.

Pete served for 40 years as a passionate and courageous public servant who made it his goal to advocate for those most in need.

Through working alongside him in Congress, I came to admire his willingness to speak out for what he believed to be right, even when it meant challenging those in power.

Pete made a difference in the lives of millions of people across the country. His substantial and lasting influence on health policy reflected his deeply held values of compassionate legislating and courageous advocacy.

Pete believed it was his role to fight for the people's interests, not for special interests. He saw his role as one of advocacy for the underserved people of his district and throughout the country.

Pete never failed to speak up when it came time to champion a more compassionate approach to governance. He truly spoke truth to power.

My thoughts and prayers are with Pete's wife, Deborah, his children, his family, and his loved ones.

May we carry his baton forward in our work for a more just world, a more compassionate world, and may he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN "CATFISH" JACKSON

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Kevin "Catfish" Jackson, who was honored at this year's Opportunity Award Gala at the Savannah Technical College Foundation for his business acumen, vision, and commitment to developing the next generation of Georgia's leaders. This award is much deserved for all the hard work and dedication that Mr. Jackson has poured into the Savannah business community.

He is the founder and CEO of EnviroVac Holdings, which employs over 1,000 people, and the chairman of the Savannah Economic Development Authority. He was appointed by the Governor to serve on the board of the Georgia Ports Authority, and he has continued to volunteer with numerous charitable organizations around town.

This is now the third major award he has won in Savannah for his accomplishments. He won Entrepreneur of the Year awards in both 2015 and 2018.

I am so proud that the Savannah Technical College Foundation chose Catfish for this year's honor.

Congratulations, Catfish. Keep up the great work.

AMERICAN WORKERS ARE THE LIVING FABRIC AND BACKBONE OF OUR COUNTRY AND ECONOMY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today's passage of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act is a major victory for the American worker.

Nationwide, millions of Americans work full-time jobs yet earn unsustainable wages and little to no benefits. Too many people work multiple jobs yet struggle to make ends meet while they watch the stock market and their executives, who, together, make millions upon millions.

But by restoring balance to the gutted National Labor Relations Act, the PRO Act will restore the collective voice and dignity of American workers from all backgrounds, no matter the color of their collar.

The PRO Act includes meaningful, enforceable penalties for union-busting companies and executives. It restores workers' ability to stand together by weakening States' antilabor right-to-work laws and closes loopholes that corporations use to exploit workers. Most importantly, it strengthens workers' right to free and fair union elections and requires corporations to respect the results.

American workers are the living fabric and backbone of our country and economy and the future of our prosperity. They deserve the power to stand together and advocate for themselves. The PRO Act is the pathway to that power.

TIME TO GET BACK TO ISSUES THAT MATTER TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address my colleagues in both Chambers of Congress.

Yesterday, we saw the absolute acquittal in the Senate of President Donald Trump after 3 years of baseless accusations, harassment, and a prolonged witch hunt known as the impeachment process.

Without a doubt, the saddest part of this 130-day fiasco that cost taxpayers an estimated \$3 million and yielded zero direct evidence implicating the President has been the colossal waste of time and resources.

The question we must ask ourselves now is this: How many lives could we have bettered during all of this?

The answer is: Countless.

It is time to get back to the issues that matter to the American people. Let's find common ground and do something.