

under the Second Amendment, which are under continual attack.

The tragic death of George Floyd has brought to surface many important issues that demand our attention, but if there is one thing that has become clear during the subsequent weeks of social unrest, rioting, destruction, and further deaths, it is the importance of being able to protect ourselves, our families, our homes, and our businesses.

For far too long, gun-grabbing policies at the State and local levels across our Nation have targeted our ability and our right to defend ourselves. Now, as the idea of autonomous and police-free zones gain momentum, law-abiding citizens must retain the ability to protect their loved ones and their way of life.

Gun control and censorship always proceed tyranny; just ask our neighbors in Venezuela. But the citizens of Florida's 15th District will have none of it, nor will I. The Constitution is clear, and the events of this spring and summer are foreboding. We must retain the right to protect ourselves.

#### LET'S MAKE OUR GRANDCHILDREN PROUD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and to call upon my colleagues to cast a vote today that will make their grandchildren proud.

Our Nation is facing a critical moment of reckoning. We consider hundreds of important bills in this Chamber every year, but it is not every day that tens of thousands of Americans take to the streets in the middle of a deadly pandemic to demand our attention, and so I want you to pay attention.

We are here today to vote on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, but not just because one police officer pressed his knee into a handcuffed Black man's neck for over 8 minutes. We are here to vote on this bill because, during those 8 minutes, three other officers stood by and because the man who killed George Floyd had 18 prior complaints against him, and yet he was still allowed to wear a badge that should signify a community's trust.

We are here today because Black lives matter. We are here because Rayshard Brooks and Tony McDade and Breonna Taylor and Stephon Clark and Deborah Danner and Philando Castile and Natasha McKenna and Tamir Rice and Laquan McDonald and Eric Garner and Aiyana Stanley-Jones and so many others are not here—because their lives matter.

We are here because police kill 1,000 Americans every year, which indicates a system so profoundly broken that it cannot be fixed by simply tinkering

around the edges. We are going to pass this bill today to create stronger systems of transparency and accountability in policing across this country.

But just as our problems with policing run deeper than the actions of a few officers in Minneapolis, the fractures in our country demand more from us than police reform. It is not police reform alone that has brought people out into the streets in the middle of a pandemic that disproportionately kills people of color. What is called for in this moment is the courageous and comprehensive reckoning with racism in America past, present, and future. It is Congress' job to deliver policy that answers the call for this transformation.

I am the first person of color that Illinois' 14th District has sent to D.C. to serve them in this Chamber. I co-founded the Black Maternal Health Caucus and recently introduced a package of Black maternal health bills because, here in the United States where we spend more money on healthcare than any other country in the world, the risk of a pregnancy-related death for Black women is three to four times higher than for White women. These women's deaths are preventable, and their lives matter.

We need to ban chokeholds and end no-knock warrants for drug charges, and I am proud that this bill does just that. But after we do, Black households will still own one-tenth of the wealth of White households. We must reform qualified immunity, and when we do, this pandemic will still take the lives and our jobs at staggering rates.

Let's pass this bill, and then let's keep going because there is much more work to be done to meaningfully address the many inequalities in health, education, economic status, justice, and safety that Black people in this country have faced for centuries.

At this pivotal moment in our Nation's effort to confront its own history, I urge my colleagues to make choices that rise to the gravity of the situation and our responsibility to the American people. It is long past time to bend this arc towards justice in policing and beyond.

□ 0930

#### CONGRATULATING JULIA HAMBLÉN

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Julia Hamblén of Shelbyville, Indiana, on her new role as Indiana FFA President.

A 2020 graduate of Shelbyville High School, Julia will be taking a gap year so she can serve as President of the Indiana FFA before attending Purdue University to study ag education.

Congratulations, Julia. You are a true role model to so many students and you are making the Sixth District proud.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO PRECISE TOOLING SOLUTIONS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Precise Tooling Solutions for winning the 2020 MoldMaking Technology Leadtime Leader Award.

Based in my hometown of Columbus, Indiana, Precise Tooling strives to create a "Team First" working environment that leads with customers and quality.

I congratulate my friend, Don Dumoulin, and the Precise Tooling team on this tremendous accomplishment.

#### SUPPORTING RURAL COMMUNITIES' NEED FOR BROADBAND SERVICE

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support rural communities during this difficult time.

Last week at the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee markup of NANCY PELOSI's infrastructure bill, I offered two commonsense amendments to enhance broadband in rural districts.

I was disappointed that the Democrats rejected these attempts to bring the benefits of broadband service to the remote areas of our country, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is critical that every family in America have access to broadband internet connection, no matter their ZIP Code.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the inclusion of rural America in future legislation, because it is our duty to keep America connected for generations to come.

#### SUPPORTING HOOSIER LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my support for law enforcement in the Hoosier State and all across America.

Hoosier law enforcement officers keep our families and loved ones safe, and they deserve our support.

I 100 percent oppose defunding the police and limiting qualified immunity. It is absolutely the wrong thing to do.

I support the President's executive order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, and I believe the right steps are being made to protect our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the men and women who wear a badge to protect and keep our country safe.

#### SHOWING UP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to show up here in Congress to work for the American people.

Nurses, doctors, first responders, food supply workers, and so many others are showing up to work every day. Why is the House of Representatives not doing the same?

I am here working on behalf of the people of Indiana's Sixth District, and I will always do so by showing up in Washington, D.C.

It is time for the House to show up right here in this Chamber.