

stirring havoc and instilling fear into families and business owners.

From San Francisco to Portland, from Minneapolis to New York City and everywhere in between, we have seen the consequences of protecting the mob over innocent civilians. This cannot be, and it cannot continue.

Law and order must be brought back to our neighborhoods, and we must hold cities and their leaders accountable for failing to adequately protect those whom they have sworn to serve.

All Americans, regardless of ZIP Codes, have a right to feel safe in their homes and on their roads. Mob rule will not be tolerated. We must reestablish law and order in America, and we must do it now.

REQUIRE FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is in crisis. Yesterday, the United States added more than 1,000 names to the already unbearably long list of 140,000 people killed by COVID-19. There have been nearly 4 million confirmed cases in the United States, and the CDC believes the number is many times greater. There are hotspots around the country, most notably in Southern States.

Many States like California and my State of Illinois that have taken measures to reopen are now looking at rolling back these measures and reinstating greater restrictions to keep their citizens safe.

The pandemic has affected all of us, putting our loved ones at risk, keeping our kids from school, overwhelming our healthcare systems, and devastating our businesses while costing 40 million people their jobs and pushing State and local governments to the brink.

With so many people and communities suffering, we desperately need a national strategy to beat back this virus. Unfortunately, while families, students, community leaders, and citizens are all making great sacrifices, and local governments are being forced to cut vital services, leadership and support from the administration have repeatedly fallen short. The American people deserve better.

All the sacrifices made since March were and are meant to buy us time to bend the curve, knock down this virus, and, ultimately, stand up our economy. But the sacrifices are only valuable if we are using the time to prepare for what many experts believe will be a spike come the fall.

Sadly, around the country, testing capacity remains below where it needs to be. Hospitals in many States are over capacity in their ICUs, understaffed, and anxious about still looming shortages of personal protective equipment, or PPE.

Six months into this pandemic, it is simply unconscionable that there are

still shortages of PPE, the masks, gloves, and gowns we need to safely treat patients, protect workers and residents in our nursing homes, confidently open our schools, and get our economy on the road to recovery.

In Illinois, we have lost nearly 7,500 lives to this disease already. With concerns that the disease may get worse this fall, and with conditions already worsening as States struggle to reopen, I am calling on Congress and the administration to take urgent action to address our immediate needs while at the same time preparing for the challenges that lie ahead.

It has been nearly 10 weeks since the HEROES Act passed the House and was sent on to the Senate. States and local governments, hospitals and nursing homes, and schools and businesses need the aid provided by the HEROES Act. The Nation needs the supply chain czar included in the HEROES Act. We all need the testing capacity funded by the HEROES Act.

Yet, after 10 weeks, the Senate still has neither taken up our legislation nor offered a plan of their own. Instead, they are delaying the Federal response to an urgent national crisis.

Ending this pandemic should not be a partisan issue. We need to move forward together, Democrats and Republicans.

That is why I am asking my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the COVID PREPARE Act. I introduced this commonsense, bipartisan legislation with my colleague, JOHN KATKO, to assure the American people that their Federal Government is prepared to address this ever-changing public health crisis.

This legislation would require Federal agencies to submit to Congress their plans for addressing COVID-19 in the fall, anticipating a potential increase in infections and even greater demands on our healthcare system and pressure on our economy.

The COVID PREPARE Act will provide bipartisan oversight and full transparency into both the planning and execution of our national response. We all certainly hope for the best, but we must responsibly prepare for the worst.

HONORING COLONEL CHARLES POWELL

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

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Colonel Charles Powell, who passed away peacefully on July 2, 2020, in his home in San Angelo, Texas, at the age of 89.

Charles was a true American hero who devoted his life to serving others, and his passing is a loss that will understandably reverberate throughout the community. His genuine love for God and others, dedication to his family, and service to his country and

community set the gold standard of excellence that we should all strive for. Although he is leaving this Earth, his legacy will live on through countless lives he has impacted during his lifetime.

Charlie was born in Nashville, Arkansas, on May 7, 1931, where he grew up and met his future wife, JoAnne. The two graduated together from Nashville High School in 1949.

Charles went on to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and graduated, in 1954, with a bachelor's degree in general engineering. He was then commissioned into the United States Air Force and launched his 30-year career in military service.

After graduating from pilot training, Charles took to the skies, supporting transatlantic and transpacific deployments of tactical forces; refueling missions supporting reconnaissance activities in the Cuban Missile Crisis; and, finally, volunteering to serve in Vietnam as a rescue crew commander and airborne mission commander. He also participated in the planning and execution of the Son Tay POW camp raid.

Over the course of his career as a pilot, Colonel Powell logged over 67,000 flying hours, flew 168 combat missions, is credited with 14 combat saves, and was awarded a multitude of military honors.

In addition to flying missions, Colonel Powell served in a variety of leadership capacities in the Air Force, from flight instructor of the Air Command and Staff College, chief of staff of Air University, and, finally, the wing commander of the technical training wing at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas.

At the center of Charlie's world was JoAnne, and their love story is one for the ages. From meeting in grade school to graduating high school together and raising their daughter, Terri, as Charles' missions took him around the globe, their commitment to each other never wavered.

San Angelo was forever changed when these two spitfires flew into town in 1980. Charles was appointed as the wing commander at Goodfellow Air Force Base, which was slated for closure at the time. Charles and JoAnne immediately leapt into action, developing the relationship between Goodfellow and the community of San Angelo and completely transforming the mission of the base. After Charles' 4 years as wing commander, Goodfellow was removed from the closure list. Today, the connection between the base and San Angelo stands as the premier example of effective military-civilian partnership.

Thankfully, after Charlie retired from the service, the Powells never left San Angelo. Instead, they immediately set to work planting deep roots in the community and making San Angelo a better place to live. These two have been some of the most dedicated public servants our community has ever seen.