filing. That is why you now have lines 5a and 5b on those forms.

This is the reason that I became so interested in this issue. When I was a State senator in Tennessee, I led not a 4-day or 4-week or 4-month, but a 4-year battle against implementation of a State income tax in my State—4 full years. It was quite a fight. The people of the State of Tennessee worked with me to make certain that we would remain State income tax-free.

Now, of course, they wanted that State income tax to pay for a health care plan. It had been the test case for HillaryCare. It was known as TennCare. That program of government-run health care exceeded the expectations of its budget by not 100 percent; it quadrupled in cost over a 5-year period of time. So Tennesseeans learned in 2000, 2001, and 2002 the message and the lesson of what a State income tax would do, how it would take more money out of their pocket.

As I came to Congress in 2003, one of the very first things we did was to put attention on restoring this deductibility. It is an important bill. I congratulate Congressman BRADY, Chairman BRADY for his work on it. I thank him for his partnership on the issue. I encourage my colleagues to vote for H.R. 622.

WEAR RED TO REMEMBER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask for a moment of remembrance for the girls of Nigeria. I believe, and people all around the world believe, that we can and should do more to bring our girls home, the girls who have already suffered so much.

Late on the evening of April 14, in the northeast corner of Nigeria, young girls were attending a government-sponsored secondary school when they heard gunshots. Soon after, they saw men on motorbikes entering the school compound. The men told them that they were policemen, but they were lying. The men gathered all the girls together, some 276 of them. They were mostly Christian girls between the ages of 16 and 18. Then more men came, fighters, and the one guard ran away. The men began shouting, and the girls realized that they were captured by Boko Haram.

As most know by now, Boko Haram is a homegrown Islamist insurgency. Roughly translated, their name means, ''Western education is forbidden.'' In the eyes of the men, the girls had committed a grave sin of seeking an education. According to a report by Human Rights Watch, the birthplace of Boko Haram is Borno State in northeastern Nigeria, a place of great poverty. Estimates by Human Rights Watch suggest that more than 7,000 civilians have died at their hands, and the fatalities are just part of the horror.

To the anguish of the girls' families, some meet a fate even worse than death. Women and girls abducted by Boko Haram are forced to marry insurgent fighters, converted to Islam, and endure beatings and psychological abuse, forced labor, and rape in captivity, and the terror will last a lifetime. The terror group has now abducted more than 500 young women and girls since 2009.

Back in Nigeria that night, some of the terrified girls were forced into a truck and taken away. Others marched into the jungle. That night and the coming months a handful of them—57 of them—escaped, and reports are that some of them have died.

Now, after nearly a year of inaction, the Nigerian Army along with forces from Chad, Niger, and Cameroon have mounted an offensive against the terrorists and have retaken territory, but still the Nigerian Army says they have no clue where the girls are.

As I speak, there are over 200 frightened, abused, and desperate girls somewhere in the jungle hoping against hope that they are not forgotten. Today, April 14, marks 1 year since the girls were taken, 1 year in captivity, 1 year in terror.

Though I am glad to see that Nigeria's immediate neighbors have begun providing assistance, I believe it is time for us to call on all African leaders to do more, to come together, to provide resources, to provide manpower to unite and fight against Boko Haram. We here in America have a role to play. I encourage everyone to do whatever they can, small or large, to bring our girls home and to keep the pressure up.

Consider for a moment how thousands of terrorists who comprise ISIS and Boko Haram have had such success in recruiting people from distant lands to pledge their lives to their murderous cause by using social media platforms. Well, we are the people who created social media, and we are the billions. Can we not do better than them, pursuing a cause of mercy, not murder? Let us, the billions, overwhelm their hate with our hope. Let's defeat their violence with our vision of a better world.

I hope you will consider that you will do one small thing to help. Consider joining one of the global schoolgirl marches taking place across the world on this day. Tweet out your call to bring our girls home. Post something on Facebook, or you can join me in the purple and red ribbon campaign of remembrance. Tonight the Empire State Building in New York City will light up in red and purple in remembrance of the girls. Purple is the color of violence against women, red of bring back our girls. There will be a march from the United Nations to the Empire State Building to thank them for remembering.

Let each of us find some way that we can help to bring these girls home. If we don't, the violence will continue. If you don't stand up and fight back, they will continue abducting, murdering, raping, and killing young girls.

I call upon everyone to do what they can—particularly, the African leaders—to stand up and fight back against Boko Haram.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless abundantly the Members of this people's House. During this season of new growth, may Your redemptive power help them to see new ways to productive service, fresh approaches to understanding each other, especially those across the aisle, and renewed commitment to solving the problems facing our Nation.

May they and may we all be transformed by Your Grace and better reflect the sense of wonder, even joy, at the opportunities to serve that are ever before us.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

> I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I