



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

No. 96

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Merciful God, thank You for giving us another day.

As we come to the end of a legislative week, begun after a most terrible tragedy in Orlando, we ask Your blessing of strength and perseverance that each Member might best serve their constituents and our entire Nation.

May it be their purpose to see to the hopes of so many Americans that they authenticate the grandeur and glory of the ideals and principles of our Republic with the work they do.

Grant that the men and women of the people's House find the courage and wisdom to work together to forge solutions to the many needs of our Nation and ease the anxieties of so many.

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 Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COURTNEY 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SUPPORTING USE OF AMERICAN ENERGY SOURCES AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose entering into contracts for energy or fuel with the Russian Federation for the purpose of heating our military installations.

I have longstanding concerns regarding the prospect of American military installations in Europe being exposed to unnecessary vulnerabilities as a result of becoming dependent upon foreign energy resources. Russian natural gas already makes up a majority of the fuel mix used at some military posts, and we cannot allow Russian coal or natural gas to take control of the difference.

This is a national security issue. By purchasing energy from areas that are impacted by volatile international or regional politics, we are putting our troops and their dependents at risk.

The United States has become the North American energy giant. With congressional action to lift a 40-year moratorium on crude oil exports, we are seeing new markets develop. We must ensure our families in Europe are provided a choice. Similarly, we must utilize American-sourced energy to strategically support our military installations overseas.

This is about countering Russian aggressions—saying “no” to Russian energy and saying “yes” to American jobs and security.

VOTE ON NO FLY, NO BUY

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, President Calvin Coolidge once said that nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not. Genius will not. Education will not. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

Yesterday, U.S. Senator CHRIS MURPHY of Connecticut reminded us of the truth of that statement when, for 15 hours, he stood on the floor of the United States Senate and refused to yield until he got a commitment from the Republican leadership of the Senate to hold a vote on a no fly, no buy piece of legislation to restrict people on the terrorist watch list from buying firearms and also for having a commonsense background check reform which allows Internet sales and gun show sales to be included in the background check system, which is supported by 53 percent of NRA households.

Mr. Speaker, finally, at 2:11 a.m., he got a commitment for those votes. I congratulate him. I am proud of him, as a fellow Connecticut citizen, for the persistence and courage that he demonstrated to the world yesterday on the floor of the United States Senate.

It is time for us now in the House to do the same. We have tried 12 times in the House to force a vote on these measures, which the public is craving by huge majorities. After the events of this last week, it is time for us to listen to CHRIS MURPHY, to follow his example, to thank him for his leadership and persistence and courage. Let's do what the American people are looking for: ways to protect us from these mass shootings of which there are far too many and that are far too damaging to the people of this country.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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GULFSTREAM G650ER ADDS ANOTHER SPEED RECORD

(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 to recognize another milestone that has been achieved by the Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation with the G650ER airplane's most recent city-to-city record.

This time, the aircraft and crew, which included pilots Todd Baker, Eric Kauber, Jon Wolfe, and flight attendant Elisa Dichiaro, departed from the Sydney Airport in Sydney, Australia, at 7:11 a.m. local time and landed at Los Angeles International Airport at 1:51 a.m. local time.

The flight only took 12 hours and 40 minutes, with an average cruise speed of Mach 0.86. The record was approved by the U.S. National Aeronautic Association, and it will most likely be approved as a world record by the International Federation in Switzerland. Together, the Gulfstream's airplanes G650ER and its sister plane, the G650, hold more than 55 total world records.

I am very proud to represent Gulfstream's facility, located in Savannah, Georgia, which is a world leader in private planes, one of Georgia's First Congressional District's largest employers and a constant producer of truly amazing airplanes. I congratulate them on their success.

RESPECT AND DIGNITY FOR OUR LGBT NEIGHBORS

(Ms. PINGREE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, on a summer day in 1984, a young gay man named Charlie Howard was walking down the street in Bangor, Maine. A car full of teenagers pulled up, and they started yelling slurs at him. They chased him down, beat him up, and threw him in a river, where he drowned.

Since then, we have made a lot of progress on LGBT rights in Maine. We passed civil rights protections, and we passed marriage equality. In Maine, as in the rest of the country, we have come far; but as the shooting in Orlando has reminded us, we still have a long way to go. We are reminded that LGBT men or women can suddenly find themselves facing the same fear that Charlie Howard probably felt on that bridge in Bangor, Maine, over 30 years ago.

Civil rights and marriage equality are very important, but they are not enough. We must not rest until our LGBT neighbors enjoy the respect and dignity that they deserve and until they do not feel that their safety is at risk because of who they are.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RON BULLOCK

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Ron Bullock, who passed away on June 8 at the age of 73. Ron was an entrepreneur and a champion of Illinois and of American manufacturing.

Born in 1942 in Dayton, Ohio, Ron graduated from Wright State University with a degree in aeronautical engineering. In 1987, he founded Bison Gear & Engineering in St. Charles, Illinois. Their gear and gear boxes are found in everything from ice machines to massage beds. He also served as chairman of the Manufacturing Institute, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, and the IMA's Education Foundation.

Ron worked personally with me and my staff on legislation to help manufacturers expand and hire more people. He gave back to his community, enlisting his employees through BisonCares to help people in need. He was a founding member of the Illinois P-20 Council, which is dedicated to providing educational opportunities for students across Illinois.

A husband, a father, a grandfather, Ron led an exemplary career and life, and he will be missed.

STOP GUN VIOLENCE

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, the Orlando shooting reminds us there is too much that has been left undone to stop gun violence.

The Republicans have voted 13 times to retain the outrageous loophole that allows suspected terrorists to legally purchase weapons—and not just on the House floor. The Republican majority rejected my no fly, no buy amendment five times in the Appropriations Committee.

In a 2011 video, al Qaeda noted the accessibility of guns in the U.S., asking: So what are we waiting for?

The real question is: What are we waiting for? Americans agree with prohibiting terror suspects from purchasing guns, and Congress is overdue to act.

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

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

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Delaware Valley Regional High School varsity baseball team for winning the 2016 New Jersey Group 2 State Championship.

After a season of hard work and determination, these talented young men

defeated Delran High School 3-2 to bring home their first title since 1959. The team accomplished an unprecedented season performance with 13 wins.

I congratulate superintendent Daria Wasserbach, principal Adrienne Olcott, head coach Marty White, athletic director Bill Deniz, and captains C.J. Schaible, Christian Hlinka, Scott Becker, Jake Brogan, and Kevin Delatte, as well as all of their teammates, for their hard work and dedication to the team. This marks another proud accomplishment for the Delaware Valley Regional High School Athletics Department.

These talented young men should be proud of their hard work, and I congratulate them on the outstanding achievement of bringing the title back to their school.

Well done, Terriers.

CLOSE THE GUN LAW LOOPHOLES

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, this morning, as I watched some news reports of my good friend CHRIS MURPHY's closing comments on the Senate floor, I thought about another period of time in this country that focused on some real troubling circumstances that existed. A man named Thomas Paine sat down to write what he felt.

He wrote: "These are times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the Sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us that, the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

We are living in some trying times. This House, for some reason, is refusing to stand up and face the consequences of what we are about to live if we don't close these loopholes that exist in our gun laws.

Mr. Speaker, in a few minutes, we are going to be debating a piece of legislation that we have already voted on, but it didn't stop Orlando or Charleston. Tomorrow, as we commemorate the first anniversary of the Emanuel nine, I would hope we would give serious consideration to closing these loopholes.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROD BLUECHEL

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a veteran who always looked for ways to serve his brothers in arms.

This Saturday, June 18, Rod Bluechel will be inducted into the Vietnam Memorial's In Memory program, which