I would love to join Mr. Cicilline and talk about a bill that we are soon going to introduce that would require that, when we export a strategic national asset—our oil and natural gas—that it would be on American-built ships with American-built hulls. We could employ hundreds of thousands of our seafarers, provide new jobs, upgrade our shipyards by changing the laws and by providing incentives for Americans to stay here and to work here.

Mr. Speaker, I know this is Mr. Cicilline’s effort. I know the gentleman wants to get to it. Perhaps we can wrap up.

Mr. Cicilline. Absolutely. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman again for including me. I look forward to the opportunity to come back and talk in more detail about the economic agenda that we collectively have put forward as the House Democrats working with the Senate Democrats that is focused on better jobs and better wages for a better future, the creation of 10 million full-time jobs, expanded investments in apprenticeships and work-based learning, ensuring that we are providing investments in career and technical education, affordable childcare, reducing the cost of prescription drugs, rebuilding the infrastructure of our country. The list goes on and on, all focused on creating good-paying, full-time jobs, raising family incomes, reducing the costs that families bear on everything from cable bills to prescription drugs and health care, and making sure people have the skills necessary for the jobs of the 21st century so they can be successful.

It is exactly the opposite of what is going to be achieved in this Republican tax scam.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to coming back with my distinguished colleagues, Cheri Bustos from Illinois, Hakeem Jeffries from New York, and Mr. Garamendi so that we can talk in a lot more detail about our economic agenda that will focus on supporting and strengthening working people in this country and giving a better deal to the American people than the raw deal they are getting from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Garamendi. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Cicilline so very much for joining me tonight.

I really want to go back and plow this field one more time. I am just a farm boy from California. I don’t know if I probably should have. The House bill eliminated the estate tax.

We know we are in California and across the nation that the State and local tax deduction will be gone. That will probably cost those 32 percent of the taxpayers—the tax filers in my district that use that deduction—$1,000 to $2,000 in additional taxes.

We know we are in California going on and on, and we know that the deficit is going to be increased. There may be some growth. There has been one analysis that said there may be a couple hundred billion dollars of growth, but it is going to make up for the $1.5 trillion deficit on top of the existing deficit.

We know the deficit hawks will be back. They have said it very clearly. They are going to come back and they are going to cut Medicare and Medicaid. We know they are going to take it out of the healthcare for the poor.

They know they want to end insurance in the Affordable Care Act for 13 million Americans. All of that has been laid out. We know all of those things.

Oh, just in case you are one of those people who have high medical costs, like a senior 50 years of age, who has a serious medical condition and you have been able to deduct from your taxes your serious medical costs, forget it. Our Republican friends are eliminating the medical cost deduction.

Why would they do that? Why would they take after people who have serious medical problems?

Their out-of-pocket costs are covering all of that.

This is a long story, but for my colleagues here on the floor, Democratic and Republican, be very, very careful because this particular tax bill, should it ever become law, is going to take this Nation a decade, maybe two decades, to get out of from underneath the extraordinary burden that it is going to place on the American economy, on the working men and women, and on the poor in America.

The thing that we need to do, Mr. Cicilline talked about infrastructure. The President says: I am going to have a $1 trillion infrastructure program. Really? Really? He is going to do that?

He just rapped the guts out of the American Treasury.

Where is the money?

Oh, it is going to be private money. No. He has already given up on that. His words, not mine.

So where is the public investment?

Five trillion dollars disappears. Five trillion dollars. Some of it made up by the elimination of these deductions that I have talked about.

Still, there is at least a $1.5 trillion hole. The only way that they can possibly make up that after giving away all of that money to the corporations, all of that money to the superwealthy—and did I mention the estate tax?

I probably should have. The House bill eliminated the estate tax.

What does that mean to our esteemed President?

Well, he says that he is worth $10 billion.

Who am I to argue with him?

If he is, and he were to die, it means $1 billion less tax to his children. Four billion. Now, others say he is only worth $3 billion. So let’s take $4 billion. For his children, it is a simple tax reduction of $1 billion.

What does that amount to?

That is what this is about. This is all about the wealthy. This is all about those who have too much. It is most definitely not about what FDR said. Etched in stone on the FDR Memorial: “The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much. It is whether we provide enough for those who have little.”

So where is our heart? So what is our moral value? Is it morality? Is it right to add more to those who have much? Or is the purpose, the central value of this Nation the opposite, to add more to those who have too little?

That is where I am. That is where my Democratic colleagues are. I am afraid my Republican colleagues are proving the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Bacon). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. Kelly) for 30 minutes.

Ms. Kelly of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois? Ms. Kelly?

There was no objection.

Ms. Kelly of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yet again rise along with my colleagues because Americans are dying and this House is doing nothing. They are dying every day in their homes, in our schoolyards, and, yes, even at events hosted by Members of this House. Still we do nothing.

Mr. Speaker, every day, 36 Americans lose their lives to gun violence, and still this House has not acted.

If anything, last week, the majority passed through a dangerous bill that will put more lives, especially the lives of law enforcement officers, at risk.

Mr. Speaker, these are fathers and mothers, daughters and sons, beloved friends and dear colleagues. These are people in every one of our communities and in every one of our districts. Not one member of this House can come to the floor and say that their constituents, who live murderously, it is the district—hasn’t been affected by gun violence. Not one Member, yet we still do nothing as bullets fly and mothers cry.

We do nothing as we lose children and
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a police officer. The death, destruction, and carnage continue, and still we do nothing.

In less than a decade, two Members of this House have been shot and a staffer murdered, and even that can’t move us to act and save American lives.

Mr. Speaker, at what cost does our continued silence come?

Earlier this year, I pledged to read the names of 5,950 gun violence victims into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—a number that should have special significance to the Speaker.

Today we continue honoring those taken from us by gun violence, and we pledge to honor their legacy through action that saves lives.

So I asked my social media followers to share their personal stories of how gun violence has torn their families and communities apart. These are their names and stories:

Lemore Draper, a community activist working to stop the violence.

Kenneth D. Mitchell, Jr., served three tours of duty in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait. He lost his life to gun violence here in America, leaving behind three sons, one of whom will never meet his father.

Thomas R. Lee was killed in Harvey, Illinois, on August 13, 2008.

Patricia May Springer.

Malcolm Dowdy was killed leaving a Memorial Day party. He had just purchased a home, was getting married, was on the dean’s list, and was the proud father of a 17-month-old. His mom, Michelle, asked me to read his name.

Katie Kearns, just 24 years old, was murdered in rural Kankakee County.

John Thomas Larimer, just age 27, gave his life protecting two friends at the Aurora, Colorado, theater shooting.

Jessica Ghawi was also killed at the Aurora, Colorado, theater shooting.

Joyce Penebaker. I was asked to read her name. She said her aunt “was a generous, loving, vibrant woman who struggled with depression.”

Kay Weins was taken while showing compassion to a stranger. She left behind two sons and several beautiful grandchildren. Her cousin Edward asked me to read her name.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK).

Elizabeth A. Coyne.

Lori Levangie.

Tyshianna Atkins.

Donna Zollo.

Glomerys Martinez.

Nichole White.

Amanda Glover.

Keosha N. Gilmore.

Amanda O’Connor.

Kelly Sugarman.

Yahaira Hernandez.

Lisa Trubnikova.

Michelle Batista.

Matilde Gabin.

Mabilia Maranhao.

Elizabeth A. Coyne.

Ramonita Colon.

Audilia DaVeiga.

Julie Treadwell.

Giomerys Martinez.

Donna Zollo.

Tysihanna Atkins.

Belinda Torres.

Keosha N. Gilmore.

Lori Levangie.

These women and other victims of gun violence deserve better, and we are doing nothing to prevent future deaths. These are just a portion of those who have shot them to death. These women and other victims of gun violence have died just in the last 5 years in Massachusetts. They are the ones who never get a vote in this Chamber. They are the ones the majority has not even tried to help.

Eugenia Gomes Monteiro.

Aracelys Valdez DeLeon.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry the Congresswoman had to read all of those names. Maybe, as we go on, things will change. We will learn and things will change.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the great State of California (Ms. Lee), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

I am here to remind my colleagues that these actions come with a devastating price. The names I am going to read tonight are names of Massachusetts women whose domestic abusers have shot them to death.

These are women who have died just in the last 5 years in Massachusetts. They are the ones the majority has not even tried to help.

You don’t have to look very hard to see that these actions come with a devastating price. The names I am going to read tonight are names of Massachusetts women whose domestic abusers have shot them to death.

These are women who have died just in the last 5 years in Massachusetts. They are the ones who never get a vote in this Chamber. They are the ones the majority has not even tried to help.

Eugenia Gomes Monteiro.

Aracelys Valdez DeLeon.

Nicole White.

Amanda Glover.

Jeannine O’Connor.

Kelly Sugarman.

Yahaira Hernandez.

Lisa Trubnikova.

Michelle Batista.

Matilde Gabin.

Mabilia Maranhao.

Elizabeth A. Coyne.

Ramonita Colon.

Audilia DaVeiga.

Julie Treadwell.

Giomerys Martinez.

Donna Zollo.

Tysihanna Atkins.

Belinda Torres.

Keosha N. Gilmore.

Lori Levangie.

These women and other victims of gun violence deserve better, and we are doing nothing to prevent future deaths. These are just a portion of those who die every single day in this country. We can do better and we must do better.

Again, I thank my colleague for all her work to make sure that we fulfill a promise to keep our families at home secure.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry the Congresswoman had to read all of those names. Maybe, as we go on, things will change. We will learn and things will change.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the great State of California (Ms. Lee), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

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Since her election to Congress, Congresswoman LEE has been a fearless and dedicated leader on ending poverty and health disparities in our Nation’s communities, including gun violence.

Like many who serve in this House, she has also attended too many funerals and comforted too many grieving mothers, fathers, and colleagues because of gun violence.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman KELLY for her tremendous leadership on so many fronts, especially as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and for her tireless work in helping us focus on the fact that gun violence should be treated as a public health crisis and that it is just that.

Congress needs to do something to stop this epidemic of gun violence that is destroying so many communities all around the country. On an average day, 93 innocent lives in America are cut short, due to gun violence. These senseless deaths also disproportionately impact communities of color.

As a Representative from California’s 13th Congressional District, I know all too well the devastating impact that gun violence has on our communities.

In fact, the Center for Disease Control recently reported that African-American children have the highest rates of firearm mortality overall. They are about 10 times more likely than White children to be killed by guns. Latino children are twice as likely as White children to be killed by guns. But no child—and I mean no child—regardless of their background, wealth, ZIP Code, or race, should be killed by gun violence. No child.

I know it pains me, and I know it pains their parents and family members, to know that such promising young people have left us too soon.

Tonight, let me just read the names of a few of Oakland’s children who have lost their lives to gun violence this year:

- Anibal Andres Ramirez, who was only 12. He was Oakland’s youngest gun victim.
- Soane Mausia, who was 18 when her former friend and colleague.
- Deangelo Hal, who was 17 when his friend accidentally shot him. What in the world was that gun doing around this young boy?
- Luis Urquiudez, who was 17 when he, once again, accidentally shot himself with a stolen gun.
- Keith Lawrence, who was 17 and a student at Skyline High School. Keith was found shot dead in a parking lot.
- Debra Clayton, Matthew Baxter, and Ser-
- John 13:17 says: “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” Well, we now know these things. In other words, when you know better, Mr. Speaker, you are supposed to do better.

I also know that the vast majority of the American people across the Nation want action.

As a former law enforcement officer, I had a duty to enforce the laws to protect the innocent; and, Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we have a duty to enact laws that protect the innocent. We need to stand up to the gun lobby and take on their indiscriminate sales of bump stocks and other modifications that make weapons deadlier to those suited for criminal violence.

We need to strengthen programs that work, such as the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, and drastically improve mental health screening and treatment.

And I continue to oppose concealed carry reciprocity, as I did last week on the floor, because it would allow persons from outside your State to bring their firearms anywhere in your State, making the job of law enforcement officers on the street who have the responsibility of sorting it all out more difficult and, potentially, more dangerous.

Mr. Speaker, the men, women, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters gunned down in our country deserve remembrance. They also deserve courage from their leaders. They deserve action from their leaders. I once again call on this body to provide some.

Debra Clayton, Matthew Baxter, and Sam Howard.

Again, I thank my colleague from Illinois for her unwavering commitment to this issue.

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Debra Clayton, Matthew Baxter, and Sam Howard.

Again, I thank my colleague from Illinois for her unwavering commitment and leadership on this issue.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman DEMINGS for those remarks, and I thank her for reminding us of the law enforcement officers who have lost their lives protecting us.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Ms. Esty, from the town of Newtown. Congresswoman ESTY is a tireless advocate for America. At some point, we have to stand up and say: Enough is enough.

Let me say that 5 years ago this week, a deranged gunman walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School and massacred 20 children—20 beautiful elementary school children. We must continue to remember, murdered in cold blood. Yet Republicans in Congress refuse to lift a finger in support of legislation to prevent these kinds of tragedies from happening.

Shame on a Republican who chooses devotion to the NRA over the lives of Americans. We simply must take action to bring commonsense gun reform to our Nation’s gun laws. That is what the American people sent us here to do, to govern in their best interest.

That is why we stand here tonight with Congresswoman KELLY and demand that the Speaker take action and bring commonsense legislation for a vote.

Give us a vote, Mr. Speaker.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman LEE’s words remind me of what I have heard so many times: we need to wait before we do anything; this group or that group or someone just died, and we are already talking about what we are going to do. It has been 5 years since Newtown, and we still have done nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida. Mrs. DEMINGS.

She sees this issue through a number of lenses: a mom, a wife of law enforcement, and a career law enforcement officer herself.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I echo the comments I have heard from other colleagues to thank my colleague from Illinois, Representative KELLY, for her unwavering commitment to this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak for those who have died in the United States as a result of senseless gun violence. I want to reflect this evening on where we have been, where we are now, and where we must go from here.

When I took office 1 year ago, I was so excited to give my first speech on the House floor. But I never dreamed my first speech would be a tribute to a former friend and colleague.

My first floor speech was to honor Sergeant Debra Clayton, a law enforcement officer who was shot and killed while trying to apprehend a murder suspect, a person who should have never had a gun in his possession in the first place.

Since then, two more law enforcement officers from central Florida, Officer Matthew Scott Baxter and Sergeant Richard Samuel Howard, have been shot and killed, both officers of the Kissimmee Police Department.

I was sworn into Congress just 6 months after the mass shooting in Orlando at the Pulse nightclub where 49 people were killed and injured in what my bible likes to call a late-night fellowship—not doing anything wrong, not in the wrong place—were killed by a lone gunman.

At that time, it was the worst mass shooting in modern American history. But in the short time since then, the number 49 has been surpassed as 59 people were killed in Las Vegas just a few months ago.

What this says is things are not getting better, and Congress has failed to take responsible action. Since the Newtown shooting, Congress has held at least 50 moments of silence for the victims of gun violence. But, Mr. Speaker, please tell me: How does a moment of silence protect the next victim?

I join my colleagues honoring the victims who have died tragically of gun violence in our Nation. The victims deserve to be remembered. Their families deserve recognition, and the victims and their families deserve action.

John 13:17 says: “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” Well, we now know these things. In other words, when you know better, Mr. Speaker, you are supposed to do better.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut.
commonsense legislation that will save American lives. She knows all too well the cost that gun violence takes on our communities and on our families. Like many who serve in this House, she is someone who has attended funerals, comforted, and continues to comfort so many mothers and fathers because of gun violence.

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. KELLY for yielding. Ms. KELLY has been such a stalwart voice for all who are all too often forgotten in what we are seeing happen in this country, a voice for those who are not lost, because sometimes we say “lost to gun violence.” These are not lives that are lost. These are lives that are ripped from us, taken from us, brutally ended.

In the 5 years since the horrific shootings in Newtown, Connecticut, in my district, 170,000 Americans have been taken from us, sons and daughters of this great country, 170,000 souls.

We should just reflect on that that means, what each and every one of those people might have done if they had lived.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative KELLY for being a tireless voice, which we needed in these challenging times.

Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago tonight, it was cold and snowy in Connecticut. The families of Newtown had picked up their children from school. They were getting ready for the holidays. It was already quite cold, and no one having any thought on December 12th, in 2 days, their lives—and America’s lives—would be changed by the reality of what gun violence has done and is doing to this country.

So, tonight, I want to read the names of the 20 children and six educators who were brutally gunned down and murdered in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut:

Charlotte Bacon, Daniel Barden, Raphel Davids, Alex Burnham, Lauren Davids, Anna Keating, Jesse Lewis, Grace McCarthy, Liam McSweeny, and Jack Pinto. My district in Central Ohio has seen an alarming rise in gun violence.

Just this week, Columbus saw its 130th homicide of the year, which is closing in on an all-time record.

We have seen far too many deaths, too many young African-Americans with guns, too many killed by guns.

My dear country, a voice for those who are not lost, because sometimes we say “lost to gun violence.” These are not lives lost, because sometimes we say “lost to gun violence.” These are lives that are waiting, and they deserve that we do our best—and not to honor only those who are lost, but to honor, even with words and silence and prayers, im-

portant as those are, but to honor, even more importantly, by taking action to save future lives.

Again, my thanks and my admiration to Representative KELLY for her extraordinary leadership and persistence.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman ESTY for her words, her commitment, and her voice in making sure that those 26 lives will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I have been reading names for nearly half an hour, and we still have stacks and stacks of names—the names of American lives—still read. And, tragically, every day the list of names grows and grows as we do nothing to stop it.

Children are murdered in their kindergartens, and we remain silent. Mothers and their children are killed in Cracker Barrel parking lots and we still do not act.

Hadiya Pendleton, a smart, charming, and talented young woman who performed at Barack Obama’s inauguration has been resting for nearly 5 years. How much longer must she wait, Mr. Speaker?

Country concerts, nightclubs, and even a congressional baseball practice have been shooting galleries, and the majority callously often calls for thoughts and prayers and moments of silence.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to crawl out from under the gun lobby checkbook and do something—anything—to save American lives.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

MRS. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my friend and colleague, Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY for tonight’s special order hour on gun violence.

Congresswoman KELLY is a stalwart leader against gun violence and serves as a visible, out-front advocate for putting an end to the gun violence epidemic.

Far too many children, families, and communities have been devastated and destroyed by a gun inappropriately in the hands of a shooter.

We have seen far too many deaths, too many young African-Americans with guns, too many killed by guns.

My dear country, a voice for those who are not lost, because sometimes we say “lost to gun violence.” These are not lives lost, because sometimes we say “lost to gun violence.” These are lives that are waiting, and they deserve that we do our best—and not to honor only those who are lost, but to honor, even more importantly, by taking action to save future lives.

Again, my thanks and my admiration to Representative KELLY for her extraordinary leadership and persistence.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn. The motion was agreed to; accordingly, at 7 o’clock and 24 minutes p.m., under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

3367. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s withdrawal of direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2017-0396; FRL-9971-14-Region 3] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3368. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s withdrawal of direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Nonattainment Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2017-0396; FRL-9971-15-Region 3] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3369. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s withdrawal of direct final rule — State of Nebraska; Approval of Nebraska’s Air Quality Implementation Plan, Operating Permit Program, and 112(l) Program; Revision to Nebraska Administrative Code [EPA-R07-OAR-2017-0485; FRL-9971-15-Region 7] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3370. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s withdrawal of direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; GA: Emission Reduction Credits [EPA-104-OAR-2009-0226; FRL-9671-12-Region 4] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3371. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s withdrawal of direct final rule — State of Nebraska; Approval of Nebraska Air Quality Implementation Plans; Adoption of a