

been killed a year earlier—both by gunfire. Saturday night, a 35-year-old male was killed. His brother had been killed a year ago by gunfire—both of them. Families are being torn asunder. No family should have to live under that. A 38-year-old male not far from my office lost his life over a parking space over this past weekend.

Gratuitous gun violence has to stop. There is something that Congress can do about it. We need to take action, little, small action like closing the gun show loophole. It makes a big difference. A little action like no fly, no buy makes a big difference. But this Congress, under the control of the NRA, is unable to do so.

It is time for change.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, Democrats made a clear and powerful statement that we will not stand silent as thousands of Americans are victimized by gun violence.

JOHN LEWIS, JOHN LARSON, and more than 100 other Democratic Members didn't hold this floor for 26 straight hours—and hold events with thousands of people across the country just last week—just to get a vote on legislation that won't make Americans safer. This week, Republicans will have a vote on a bill that was written by the NRA and would not address the scourge of gun violence.

The American people deserve a vote on legislation that will actually keep those under investigation for terrorism from purchasing guns legally in our country, bipartisan legislation like Republican Representative PETER KING's no fly, no buy bill. They also deserve a vote on legislation that would strengthen and make comprehensive background checks.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, if Democrats sound frustrated with the House's failure to act on gun violence, it is because we are. In New York City over this past weekend, 14 people were shot in 10 incidents. Three weeks ago, more than 100 people were shot in a single evening in a single club in Orlando, and 49 of them died.

My Democratic colleagues and I have been running through the statistics over and over again for years now—tens of thousands of deaths every year. Since we had the sit-in on the House floor just a few weeks ago, more than 1,000 Americans have died from gun violence. That is shameful.

So, yes, we are frustrated because this is the only country in the devel-

oped world with gun laws like these. Australia changed its gun laws, and as a result, they virtually have no gun homicides in that place. We just sit and mourn and do nothing.

You can order one over the Internet. We don't require background checks, and they will ship it to your house.

We are asking for no fly, no buy, and we are asking for background checks.

You can walk up to a booth at a gun show and hand a stranger a stack of cash and walk away with a semiautomatic assault rifle, no questions asked. Under current law, even if the FBI has probable cause to believe you are a terrorist, you can walk into a gun store and pass a background check. That is shameful.

We have to make a choice. We have to act. I ask my good colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and pass sensible gun control legislation.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, as the representative of New Jersey's Tenth Congressional District—which suffered one-third of the State's total gun deaths last year—I know the destruction that gun violence inflicts, and I know how important it is that we do more to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

Today we stand with the vast majority of the American people in support of a very simple principle: our gun laws should uphold and protect the freedom of all Americans—that includes responsible gun owners and those Americans trying to exercise their basic right to be free from gun violence.

We stand with the vast majority of Americans who believe that, if you are too dangerous to fly, you are too dangerous to buy a gun; who believe that we need to keep guns from criminals, domestic abusers, and dangerously mentally ill individuals.

Mr. Speaker, on this day of action, we renew our call for Republican leadership to give the American people a vote that is bipartisan in nature on gun safety legislation. We cannot continue to have the NRA stand for “no Republican action.”

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the NRA-authored H.R. 4237, the so-called Protect America Act.

Mr. Speaker, how does this legislation protect America from gun violence? This bill would do nothing to close the terror gap that currently allows suspected terrorists to legally buy guns. This bill would do nothing to ad-

dress our anemic background check system that allows up to 40 percent of all firearm transfers to proceed without a background check. And this bill will do nothing to keep guns out of the hands of the dangerously mentally ill.

Mr. Speaker, there are steps that Congress can take to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people and to keep Americans safe from gun violence. Unfortunately, the Protect America Act would accomplish neither.

This body should be concerned with protecting Americans from gun violence, not protecting its Members from tough votes.

Mr. Speaker, let the people's House vote on real, meaningful, commonsense legislation that would keep our constituents safe.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a mother, the second best day of my life was when my son was born. The first best day was when he returned safely from war. That is because every night was almost unbearable. I prayed that I would not get that fateful knock at the door.

My son went to war, and that knock on the door—while you don't want it, it is unimaginable—but you expect it. But no parent—no parent—should worry that they are going to get that knock on the door when they put their child on a schoolbus or when their child goes to the movies or out for a celebration.

My constituent, Greg Key, got that knock. His daughter, Lindsay, age 19, went to a party and became the victim of a stray bullet.

Mr. Speaker, how many more devastated parents like Greg and the moms and dads we have heard about have to get devastating news and feel devastating pain? It is time for this Congress to do its job.

No more guns for criminals or terrorists.

GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, we are here with a very simple plea this morning with 5-minutes and this afternoon with 1-minutes.

We know the Speaker is an honorable man. We know that the chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. SESSIONS, is an honorable man. We in the minority are just asking for two commonsense, simple votes, both that have bipartisan support and sit here waiting to be discharged. But in the minority, it is the only voice that we have.

This minority party represents, actually, a majority of the American citizens, and we can't get a vote on what