

broke, acknowledging “extreme carelessness” while denying “gross negligence,” which by definition are one and the same.

Then, incredibly, Mr. Comey said that there was no need for prosecution. Therefore, the choice not to apply the law equally to Hillary Clinton is not only a major blow to public confidence and the rule of law and equal treatment under the law, it also suggests that the rule of law has become nothing more than a word game. It confirms everything that we hate about the current state of politics in our country.

The FBI basically just wasted millions of dollars to confirm that everything Secretary Clinton has been telling the American people is nothing but a bunch of lies, and it doesn't matter.

However, it has mattered greatly to far less powerful Americans in similar circumstances who have had their careers and their lives destroyed. Public servants and military servicemembers who are not in positions to hold private meetings with the Attorney General, as Mrs. Clinton's husband did just days before this decision, have been jailed, fined, and lost their jobs and their security clearances.

We may never know just how much damage was caused by Clinton's callous disregard for the law and our national security secrets. Were informants killed? Were they lost or compromised due to her negligence?

Do foreign intelligence services now retain tens of thousands of emails from her private, unsecured servers that can now be used against the United States or against her to the detriment of the United States of America?

We have an absolute duty to find out.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward a presumptive nominee for the Office of President.

URGING CONGRESS TO FUND ZIKA ERADICATION EFFORTS

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

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a strong sense of urgency for this Congress to pass legislation that will fund Zika response efforts. It has been 20 days since this House adopted the conference report to include \$1.1 billion of funding to combat the Zika virus.

While I still fully support the administration's request for \$1.9 billion, this House-passed measure is a step in the right direction. I implore my colleagues in the Senate to unite and provide funding to eradicate a disease that could devastate our communities, especially young mothers and their infants.

□ 1100

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the southernmost district in the United States that spans from Miami

to Key West. We have a vibrant community and an economy based off trade and tourism. But we are also ground zero for the Zika virus, with over 239 cases in Florida, 75 of those being in Miami-Dade County. Just yesterday, the Florida Department of Health announced six new travel-related cases of Zika.

I have consistently advocated for full funding at the administration's request to stop the spread of Zika and will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to get this done. But in the meantime, I strongly encourage the Senate to adopt the Zika conference report and provide our healthcare officials with the resources they need to fight this dangerous virus.

PROMOTING TPP AND PROTECTING AMERICAN JOBS

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the issue of trade has been much discussed in the current political season. Candidates all across the political spectrum are twisting the facts and telling half-truths in an effort to confuse the American people.

The reality is that trade has afforded American workers and businesses the opportunity to sell the products they make all over the world, and it has reduced the cost of goods for all American consumers. Trade has lifted millions out of poverty and has contributed to the proliferation of American values and the advancement of our interests. South Florida being the gateway to the Americas, our community knows the many benefits of robust trade policies.

However, free trade must also be fair trade, and American workers and companies should not be at an unfair disadvantage. Many citizens have contacted my office complaining about Chinese practices that do not allow Americans to compete. But even strong U.S. allies are guilty of such practices. An example is Australia's Personal Property Securities Act.

Because of this law, U.S. companies that lease assets in Australia are at peril of losing them. This notion is contrary to the elemental right to own and conduct international business as well as the fundamental right to due process and equal treatment, both of which are key principles of justice in virtually all nations in the Western world. At least one Florida company has been aggrieved by this law, and it is important we discuss these issues while we finalize trade negotiations.

Those of us who believe the Trans-Pacific Partnership has the potential to be a powerful policy instrument that will benefit America's economy and increase our influence in the world also hope that it will level the playing field for American workers and entrepreneurs and address the policies and practices that give trade a bad name. I look forward to following this issue very closely as negotiations continue.

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 11 o'clock and 2 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

Reverend Malcolm J. Byrd, Jackson Memorial AME Zion Church, Hempstead, New York, offered the following prayer:

O God, Thou in whom we live and move and have our being, God of our weary years and God of our silent tears, Thou who hath spangled the heavens with Thy glory, descend now, we pray, upon the United States of America.

Grant unto our Nation the gifts of truth and justice. Imbue our Nation and its leaders with wisdom and courage to speak truth to power in love, even if that power happens to be themselves.

Grant unto them Thy grace that You extend to all, not based upon sociopolitical status, but upon Thy omnipresence. As You are present from sea to shining sea, be Thou our guide as we are caused to traverse through our respective districts, engendering hope in oft hopeless situations.

Our hope and trust, O God, is in Thee. We channel in the midst of our various strivings the words of Joseph Charles Price: It matters not how dark the night, we believe in the coming of morning. May our Nation be filled with Thy grace and heavenly benediction this day and forever more. In Thy great and splendid name we pray.

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 Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANGEVIN 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND MALCOLM
J. BYRD

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Reverend Malcolm J. Byrd, the Pastor of Jackson Memorial AME Zion Church in Hempstead, New York, and to thank Reverend Byrd for leading us in prayer on the House floor today.

I first met Reverend Byrd 1 year ago yesterday, just a few weeks after nine Black men and women were murdered inside Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Reverend Byrd held a service and presented a colorful patchwork quilt that the children of his church created to send to the Mother Emanuel congregation.

Leading us in prayer, Reverend Byrd said that day: "O, God, there is a long road that leads from Hempstead to Charleston, but there is one thing that makes us closer than the miles that separate us: We are all part of the family of God."

Today, as we find ourselves once again in the wake of tragic violence, we are blessed to have Reverend Byrd here with us. He is a man of God, a man of faith, a man of peace and hope. He is also a man of vision, a man who sees America as it is, as it can be, as it must and will be: a patchwork quilt in which people of all colors and creeds are sewn together as brothers and sisters, united in our common humanity.

There is a long road that leads from Hempstead to Orlando and to Baton Rouge and to Falcon Heights and to Dallas. There is a long road that leads from Hempstead to Washington, D.C., but I thank God that Reverend Byrd has traveled that road safely today. I pray that we all take his message to heart and never forget that, no matter what distance lies between us or what walls may divide us, we are all a part of the family of God.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE
WITH DALLAS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the city of Dallas and all who call north Texas home. Last week our community experienced a horrific tragedy when five police officers were murdered in cold blood, and they were gunned down while safeguarding a peaceful rally.

My thoughts and prayers continue to be with the families, friends, and fellow

law enforcement officers of the five brave men we lost. I also pray for peace, comfort, and for hearts to be healed.

The memorial service in Dallas yesterday reminds us of what many Texans already know: we are a family. While we may not always agree, all Americans should have mutual respect for one another, and we must have an ultimate, mutual respect for our constitutional rights, first and foremost being life and liberty.

God bless Dallas. God bless America.

GOOD GUYS WITH GUNS

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

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, ever since the Sandy Hook shooting, Republicans have told us that the silver bullet solution to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.

After the Pulse nightclub massacre, Donald Trump said it would have been a beautiful sight if people had fired back. Though Trump's endorsement of combining alcohol with firearms was too extreme even for the NRA, they still encourage people to carry guns to campuses, public parks, and everywhere else.

Let's talk about the good guys with guns. Twelve good guys, Dallas law enforcement officers, men and women, trained to shoot, were stopped by one bad guy. Five officers were killed and seven were wounded.

Whether it is a security guard or an entire police force, there is no stopping a single bad guy with a military-style assault rifle. If our best trained officers can be thwarted, how could the average shooter stop another shooter?

It is time for Congress to focus on the needs of our constituents over gun manufacturers' profits. Instead of flooding the streets with more guns, let's vote on commonsense gun laws.

HONORING TOM ALLGEIER'S SERVICE
TO THE KUHLL HOSE COMPANY

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of 60 years of dedicated service by Thomas "Tom" Allgeier to his community as a volunteer firefighter. Since 1956, Tom has volunteered to serve the citizens of Greene Township, Erie County, as a member of the Kuhl Hose Company. As a volunteer firefighter myself, I know how important people like Tom are to the communities they serve.

Tom Allgeier joined the Kuhl Hose Company at the age of 18, when the company was in its early days. He has held many positions during his 60 years with the company, including fire chief,

deputy chief, fire captain, first lieutenant, and EMT. He has also served in administrative roles for the department, from president to vice president and treasurer. He has chaired many fundraising committees and helped to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the department over the past six decades.

Tom remains among the leaders in training, hours logged each year, both in weekly drills and attending classes to keep his training current. At 78 years old, Tom is still running emergency calls.

I know I speak for countless members of his community in applauding Tom's hard work and his dedication.

GUN VIOLENCE SHOULDN'T BE A
PARTISAN ISSUE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, in the 1 month since 102 people were shot and 49 were killed in Orlando, Republican leadership in this House has done nothing to help stop the kind of mass gun violence that has claimed the lives of more than 34,000 people in the last 3½ years. No votes have been cast. No bills have been debated. No proposals have even been considered.

Our side wants background checks and no fly, no buy so criminals, the dangerously mentally ill, and terrorists can't get guns. If you don't like our ideas, join with us and let's find common ground.

Gun violence shouldn't be a partisan issue. When deranged gunmen open fire in a nightclub, a movie theater, a school, or on policemen, they don't care if you are a Democrat or a Republican. Let's pull together and address this problem. It is within our power to help save lives. Let's not waste it.

SPEAKER RYAN'S "A BETTER
WAY" AGENDA

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in recent weeks, Speaker of the House PAUL DAVIS RYAN has presented the A Better Way agenda on how to build a more confident America. I am grateful for the Speaker promoting A Better Way to defend America's families and create jobs.

Recent terrorist attacks at home and overseas confirm what House Republicans have warned about for years—that the current foreign policy is failing. To promote peace through strength to protect American families, we need a real plan, one that protects the homeland, defeats terrorism, tackles new threats, and defends freedom around the world.

As the chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging