Take, for example, in Atlanta, Georgia, my home State, just this past weekend at the NBA All-Star game, there were 13 shootings. These were all illegal shootings. None of those criminals signed up for a background check for their guns. None of those criminals considered that they needed a waiting period before they used their firearm. And none of those criminals cared about any of the laws on the books when they shot people.

Criminals don't care about gun laws. Criminals just don't care. They're going to commit their crime. They are going to murder someone, whether they have a legal gun, an illegal gun, a knife, a hammer, you name it. They are criminals. They break the law.

H.R. 8 requires a background check on gun owners. Everyone knows that for a background check, you have to submit all your information to get that background check done. It is actually nothing but a national gun registry list. And everyone knows that a registry list leads to gun confiscation later on. This is what gun owners know. This is what gun owners fear of a government that may become too tyrannical, which I would like to remind you is the whole reason why we have the Second Amendment in the first place. It is because our brave men and women who founded our country fought against a tyrannical government that was coming to take away their guns.

This is not what we want in America. We never want a war on our land, but we also don't want a government that becomes too controlling and overbearing and takes away the rights of gun owners.

□ 1030

You see, gun rights are American rights, and gun rights are women's rights. Yesterday was International Women's Day. It is a wonderful thing to be an American woman. We are the freest women in the world. For us to be able to have the right to own a firearm and protect ourselves when someone is trying to hurt us is a great right.

Madam Speaker, there is a woman named Carol Bowne, who was stabbed to death outside of her New Jersey home by her ex-boyfriend. Carol knew her best chance of defending herself from a violent ex-boyfriend was a gun, not a piece of paper, not a 911 call. She knew her ex-boyfriend was violent and wanted to kill her, so she went to buy a gun.

But you know what? It was a background check, the rules of the State, the oppressive gun rules of that State, that led to her being stabbed to death because it delayed her ability to buy a gun and defend herself from an ex-boyfriend that was out of his mind.

Carol Bowne had a restraining order. She was following the law against her boyfriend, so she had a restraining order. She had reported him to the police, but he still came to her house and killed her in the driveway. She was waiting for her approval of her gun permit—literally, what we are talking about with H.R. 8, background checks, and H.R. 1446, a 20-day waiting period.

She was following the law, and she still got stabbed to death and murdered by her ex-boyfriend. You see, she had gone to the township police department 2 days before her death to check on the status of her languishing application.

Another indication of her fear of her out-of-his-mind ex-boyfriend, she had installed surveillance cameras around her home. Guess what? Those cameras recorded——

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

HONORING RAMON ANIBAL RAMOS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and work of a great New Yorker, a great Dominican-American, Ramon Anibal Ramos, who was born in San Pedro de Macoris in Ingenio Angelina.

Over 50 years in radio and TV, that is what he gave our community. He conducted Fiesta de Tele Antillas on channel 47. He would listen to rock and roll as a young man, at an early age.

He began La Voz del Tropico in 1958. He worked at Radio Radio, Onda Musical, Radio Reloj. In 1973, he went to work for Radio Clarin, ''Entre Carrera y Carrera,'' then Colorvision at a program called ''La Alegria del Pais y Fiebre del Sabado,'' and also Super KQ FM98.

He was an advocate for the community, and he worked right in the middle of the pandemic with SOMOS, a group of community-based physicians in the community of northern Manhattan.

Madam Speaker, as the newspaper reported flocks of vultures flying over Manhattan in those tough months of February, March, April, during the pandemic, Ramon Anibal Ramos was out there documenting everything that was going on in the city of New York and reporting on what community doctors at SOMOS were doing on behalf of my constituents. He was an advocate for the community. He worked with those doctors.

I want to extend my condolences to his wife and family, and to say that Ramon Anibal Ramos and his show, ''El Show de Ramon Anibal Ramos,'' was truly ''lo mejor del cable.''

Madam Speaker, I bring his name up because we are about to pass a $1.9 trillion rescue package, and I am amazed. I am taken aback. I am surprised how many in this Chamber and in the Senate don't see the importance of this rescue package.

Madam Speaker, as I said earlier, a flock of vultures flew over New York City. Imagine that, the number of dead people, families mourning, people fighting for their lives on ventilators in hospitals across the city, families quarantined, businesses shut down. Some of them will not be able to open again. Some of them are struggling to open right this very moment.

Imagine the heroes, nurses and doctors and police officers and firefighters, community-based physicians, who were out there supporting our community, putting their lives on the line—including Ramon Anibal Ramos, who put his life on the line to help New Yorkers.

Yet, many in this Chamber across the aisle and in the Senate don't see the importance of passing this $1.9 trillion package, which provides $75 billion for increased vaccination. As we see a new variant—by the way, it has been determined by researchers that only one out of the four antibodies available work against this new variant.

In fact, we are not over this pandemic, and we must bring additional dollars for vaccination. We must bring additional help for small businesses: the EIDL Forgiveness Act, additional PPP money, $25 billion for restaurants that have been hurt; $1,400 for families, for individuals, including those children and young people who are in school and college, and dependent parents who may be living with us.

Madam Speaker, the other side of the aisle and some of our Senators fought against the $400 unemployment benefits. They fought over a mere $100. What is $100 in today's cost of living? What can you buy with $100? Yet, they scrabbled and fought over $100 of unemployment benefits. Incredible.

Madam Speaker, this is an important package that will not only save America; it will put us on the right track to recuperate from this horrendous pandemic, which may be the crisis of our generation. We are here to support that package, to open up the schools safer. Let's bring health to the American family.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF WILLIAM QUARLES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I stand here to honor the life and memory of William Edward Quarles, Jr.

Mr. Quarles was a pillar of the Goochland County, Virginia, community, and he constantly worked to make Goochland stronger. He encouraged his neighbors to get involved in local decisionmaking, and he cared about improving public safety and protecting the families that called Goochland home.

William was a dedicated leader with a heart for public service. He served on the Goochland County Board of Supervisors for 8 years, serving as chairman three times. He served for 6 years on the Goochland Planning Commission, including two times as chairman. He also served on the State EMS Advisory Board and as a representative for the