today. If my colleagues insist on moving forward with legislation that empowers union bosses and strips independence from our workers, we will lose to countries like China, who profit from sweatshops and child labor.

Many of the ideas in this bill have already been rejected in the court system, making this bill pointless and a waste of time.

THIS PANDEMIC REQUIRES A BOLD INVESTMENT

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic requires bold investment, and that is what the American Rescue Plan is.

This bill invests $20 billion to get shots in arms and make sure everyone knows where, when, and how to get a vaccine.

Many students are back in school or are going back soon. California will get $15 billion to reopen safely and keep schools open to make up for lost time.

We have also invested in the backbone of our economy: small businesses. In fact, economists believe this bill can bring us back to near full employment in about a year.

To ensure local governments can keep providing essential services, this bill delivers over $259 million to cities and counties in my district alone.

Finally, this package invests in the American people. Direct payments, unemployment benefits, tax credits, and healthcare subsidies will help lift 12 million people out of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to voting for this bill.

SPENDING BILL IS NOT TARGETED, TIMELY, NOR TIED TO COVID RELIEF

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the partisan $1.9 trillion spending bill before us today.

It is shameful that Democrats have disregarded their obligation to provide real COVID relief to the American people and are instead attempting to use this process to jam through partisan agenda items.

This bill is not targeted, timely, nor tied to COVID relief. We need to focus on solving the critical issues at hand: getting vaccines to Americans; providing relief for our local businesses, restaurants, and entertainment venues; and supporting those who have been seriously impacted by this pandemic.

Only 9 percent of this massive $1.9 trillion package goes to fighting COVID–19, and outside of stimulus payments, nearly half won't even be spent this year. It is simply unfathomable that Democrats want to spend money years down the road when we have so many pressing needs to address today.

We have worked in a bipartisan manner to pass five—five—relief measures, and I am disappointed that the Democrats have decided to be so egregiously partisan in a time of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SUPPORT UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, more than 90 percent of Americans support universal background checks for those purchasing guns. Today, I urge my colleagues to do the same by supporting H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446. These bills will keep guns out of the hands of those who aren't allowed to have them in the first place.

For years, I have introduced a bill to prevent people from skirting the background check process by purchasing guns at gun shows, and I am very glad that H.R. 8 accomplishes this. If you can't buy a gun from a licensed dealer, you shouldn't be able to buy a gun anywhere, especially at a gun show.

H.R. 1446 closes the Charleston loophole, which allows individuals to buy guns before their background check is completed. Ensuring community safety shouldn't have a 72-hour clock.

With gun deaths and gun sales surging in 2020, we must act now to close these loopholes and meaningfully combat gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote on these two votes today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GLENNA FOUBERG

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

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, Glenna Fouberg was a force of nature. Her list of accomplishments makes that clear.

She made real and lasting contributions to at-risk youth, the board of education, the Indian Education Summit, Teach for America, YMCA, Northern State, and her church. She was named South Dakota Teacher of the Year in 1994, and she was a member of the South Dakota Hall of Fame. As I said, she was a force of nature.

But Glenna Fouberg was not a list of accomplishments to me, Mr. Speaker. She was a friend. For 20 years, she gave me advice and counsel. Like a good teacher, she always gave it to me straight.

She gave gifts like that to so many. Earlier this week, I was talking to my friend Tom, who said that during the pandemic, 78-year-old Glenna Fouberg, a force of nature and a legend, had been teaching his 12-year-old daughter how to knit.

When Glenna died in January, she left behind her loving family and thousands of us to whom she had taught so much.

TODAY WE ARE HELPING MAIN STREET

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, the House will vote to approve the American Rescue Plan for poor and middle America.

The false choice of Wall Street or Main Street is no more. This plan helps the neighborhood streets and the homes where real people live and struggle every day.

This plan is supported by 75 percent of the American people. It will help the cities of Niagara Falls and Buffalo, the county of Erie; will return the American economy to full employment; and will grow that economy by 6 percent, a rate not seen in many, many decades. This is a good plan that provides direct assistance to the people of this country who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this plan.

HONORING THE SELFLESS BRAVERY OF TIMOTHY CHADWICK, SR.

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the selfless bravery and service of a member of my community in New York's 22nd Congressional District, Timothy Chadwick, Sr.

Mr. Chadwick served our country in the Air Force during the Vietnam war. Timothy's story is shared by so many Vietnam veterans across our country. While serving in Laos, Timothy was exposed to Agent Orange, which has plagued his health ever since.

Many U.S. servicemembers who were stationed in Vietnam were exposed to the toxic herbicide known as Agent Orange. As a result, our veterans are at an increased risk of developing cancer, Parkinson's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and many other deadly illnesses.

These brave veterans risked everything to defend our freedom, and they deserve our support as they overcome the effects of their service. I will never stop standing up and fighting for veterans like they stood up and fought for us.

God bless men like Timothy Chadwick and so many others who served our Nation honorably, and God bless all the men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

SALUTING ALIYAH BOSTON

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1