go through that system to keep our communities safe. But they don't because of a dangerous loophole like the one that allowed Manny to buy an AR–15 at a gun show without a background check.

□ 1100

The background check system is the foundation of gun safety in America. When that foundation is weak, like it is today, it makes all of us less safe.

We need universal background checks. States with laws requiring background checks on all sales have lower gun homicide rates than States that don't. Guns from States that lack background check laws often end up recovered from crime scenes in neighboring States without those tough laws.

That is why we need a uniform national requirement to end weak gun laws that contribute to trafficking.

The President visited New York City recently after two police officers were fatally shot, and he urged the need for universal background checks. He rightly said our country needs a comprehensive strategy to dramatically reduce gun violence. The Attorney General of the United States has directed U.S. attorneys to confront gun trafficking across State lines and in cities.

I strongly support the President's call for a comprehensive strategy. As part of that strategy, Congress should do what many States are currently working on to ban untraceable ghost guns, similar to the law that was signed in New York in October of last year. Congress can do this.

Congress should also pass safe storage legislation to protect kids from being harmed by loaded weapons kept unsafely in their homes. We should ban weapons of war that don't belong in our community and are regularly used to hunt innocent people. Who needs to be able to fire off 50 or 100 rounds at a time?

Congress should recognize that high-capacity magazines have no place in our communities and that their only purpose is to make it easy to cause mass casualties.

These proposals have significant support. Ninety percent of Americans, including gun owners, want universal and stronger background checks.

Would a stronger background check system prevent every instance of gun violence? No, of course not. Would ending large-capacity ammunition magazines prevent mass casualties caused by guns? No, but they will make us safer. They will make our communities safer. They will make our schools safer. They will make the workplace safer. They will make people feel safer as they attend religious services. They will make it easier for law enforcement to do their jobs safely every day.

Continued inaction on confronting gun violence will only lead to more innocent people dying from firearms. Congress must take action to get strong gun violence prevention legislation for Joaquin and the 16 others who were taken at Stoneman Douglas, for their families, and for America.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF PRIVATE ANDREW LADNER

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the homecoming of World War II Private Andrew Ladner, whose remains finally came home 80 years after being killed in action.

Private Ladner was assigned to the 126th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Infantry Division. On November 30, 1942, during a blockade to prevent a Japanese assault on the island of New Guinea, he was killed during the initial wave and was reportedly buried 26 yards west of the road the unit was blockading.

After the war, his remains could not be found and eventually were declared nonrecoverable. However, between a little luck and the never-quit Army attitude and exhaustive research, they located his remains in 2016.

Now Private Ladner can be laid to rest in a way he deserves. I know his family takes comfort in his example of a life well lived and the legacy he left behind all those years ago.

Private Ladner was part of the Greatest Generation of Americans. His family can find solace in knowing his legacy will never die but lives on with every American who puts on the uniform of the United States military.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Mississippi, we honor the memory of Private Andrew Ladner, who gave his life for his family and the country he so dearly loved.

Private Ladner, may you rest in peace. God bless you, and Semper Fidelis.

MAKING HEALTHCARE MORE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE THAN EVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud President Joe Biden's executive order to bring down the cost of health insurance and expand health coverage. The executive order represents the most significant action to strengthen the Affordable Care Act since it was signed into law.

Consistent with the administration's mission, my colleagues and I in Congress voted in favor of the Affordable Insulin Now Act, which will lower costs for hardworking families by capping the out-of-pocket costs for insulin at $35 per month.

President Biden's executive order delivers a longstanding Democratic priority for strengthening the Affordable Care Act and fixing the so-called family glitch. Without this step, current regulations define employer-based health insurance as affordable if the coverage is provided solely for the employee and not for family members.

For family members of an employee offered health coverage through an employer, the cost for that family coverage can sometimes be very expensive and make health insurance out of reach. The family glitch affects 5 million people and has made it impossible for many families to use the premium tax credit to purchase an affordable, high-quality marketplace plan.

Fixing the family glitch builds on several steps Democrats have taken to lower health costs and build on the Affordable Care Act, including the American Rescue Plan, which was signed into law last year. The American Rescue Plan is saving families an average of $2,400 in annual premiums and has helped enroll 14.5 million Americans in marketplace plans.

Thanks to Democratic leadership, healthcare is more affordable and accessible than ever. Our American Rescue Plan dramatically lowered the cost of marketplace plans and helped enroll millions of Floridians into quality, affordable coverage.

As House Democrats fight to build a better America for all people, I will continue to work to lower healthcare costs and prescription drug prices for all Floridian families.

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 6 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

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Sovereign God, nothing in all of creation is hidden from Your sight. Your eyes, O Lord, are everywhere. You see everything from the wars that rage around the world and into the recesses of each heart. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before Your eyes that all must give account.

Call to account, then, the wicked and the good. Unspeakable atrocities have taken place throughout Ukraine. Bring to justice those who have failed to demonstrate any evidence of human decency. Bring to Your court those who have disregarded the precious life of the innocent.

Raise up the good and strengthen the noble, and give success to their efforts to shield and shelter the displaced and