ATLANTA TRAGEDY GOOD EXAMPLE OF WHY WE NEED GUN CONTROL

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning I wish to rise and offer our sympathy to the people of Atlanta, to those who have lost their loved ones and those who are now recovering in Atlanta's hospitals, to Mayor Campbell and the elected officials to which I know that, being the largest number of mass killings in the history of that city, this and yesterday were tragic days.

That is why I think this recent vote was most important. As we move toward conference to be able to establish this conference's and this Congress' position on protecting our youth and having a reasonable and rational response to gun violence in America, it is important to be able to have effective background checks.

What a tragedy that this individual, this alleged perpetrator had a background of violence; and, yet, he was allowed, until we get further facts, seemingly, to get guns.

This Nation must stand up against the proliferation of guns in this country fairly and responsibly. We must do it together. Republicans and Democrats. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to us saying to the American people enough is enough.

WHY IS TAX RELIEF A THREAT TO DEMOCRATS?

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, why is the idea of giving tax relief to taxpayers so upsetting to many Democrats?

Could it be that Washington would rather have more money to spend, and the politicians on that side would rather spend more money?

Why is it that Democrats refuse to acknowledge that the Republicans, the Republicans, have passed lockbox legislation to protect Social Security and Medicare while Democrats in the other body have blocked Social Security lockbox legislation?

Why do Democrats mischaracterize the effect of the Republican tax relief package on the national debt, ignoring the $2 trillion in debt reduction that we provide for?

Why do Democrats refuse to admit that the Republican proposal allocates $2 for Social Security and Medicare for every $1 in tax relief?

Is the new Washington spending not a threat to fiscal discipline where-as tax relief is?

In other words, Mr. Speaker, Chairman Greenspan is saying get the money out of Washington before the liberals spend it. Give it back to the people.

He goes on from there to say, “moving on the tax front makes a good deal of sense to me.” Those are the actual words of Chairman Greenspan, not the spin of the White House or the distortions of those on the other side who are forgetting to include the critical portion of the Federal Reserve Chairman’s remarks.

REPUBLICAN TAX RELIEF PACKAGE BENEFITS AMERICANS

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, what would the Republican tax relief package mean to Americans? It would mean that, for many Americans who cannot obtain health insurance through their employers, obtaining health insurance would become easier.

It would mean that more seniors would be able to pass on the family farm or the family business to their children.

It would mean that people who save for their future and for their children would be able to get a greater return on their savings.

It would mean that ordinary Americans would see their paychecks go up a little bit, giving them more options, more choices about working, working overtime, or meeting the family budget.

It would mean that paying off those credit card debts would be a little easier.

It would mean that married couples would not be penalized so heavily for being married.

Lower taxes means that people would have more control over their lives, over their time, and over their futures.

With a $3 trillion surplus over the next several years, is that really such a terrifying concept?

TRIGGER MECHANISM ALLOWS RESPONSIBLE TAX CUTS

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

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the trigger mechanism that we put in the House tax cut bill. This trigger provides a safeguard from incurring massive deficits to finance the tax cuts. It is a simple provision.

If interest paid on the national debt does not go down, then across-theboard tax cuts are delayed until the next year.

It recognizes that budget projections are just that, projections; and if the