Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the NAFTA Impact Relief Act. Since NAFTA was introduced in 1994, factories across the country and in my district, Centreville, Prestians, Collins and Magee, have shut down and lost thousands of jobs, exploiting cheap foreign labor.

The NAFTA job retraining program is sorely underfunded and really not very complete. It misses the point. When people in the rural area lose a factory, there is not a job to be retrained for. They need actual jobs.

The NAFTA Impact Relief Act creates new jobs by authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to designate NAFTA-impacted communities similar to enterprise zones. Businesses would receive tax incentives to locate and hire workers in these communities.

The NAFTA Impact Relief Act is a win-win for business and labor, and needs to become law. I urge my colleagues to get behind the bill, because there are many, many unemployed Americans in this country because of NAFTA. Please help us.

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS FAILED IN PROTECTING AMERICA’S NUCLEAR WEAPONS SECURITIES

Mr. HEFLY. Mr. Speaker, in 1995 the person in charge of counterintelligence at the Department of Energy discovered some devastating information. It appeared that the Communist Chinese had obtained our most important nuclear secrets.

The most advanced nuclear weapon in our arsenal, the W-88, had somehow been given to the Communist Chinese. It was so horrific he could hardly believe his ears; the worst possible case, the ultimate national security disaster.

Communist China was the same country that was selling weapons of mass destruction technology to Iran and other rogue regimes, the same country that imprisoned citizens for their political beliefs, the same country that massacred a thousand in Tiananmen Square for believing in freedom.

That Energy Department official then sounded the alarm, but no one listened. The Justice Department unbelievably turned down the FBI’s request twice to wiretap the scientist suspected of giving away the most important secret the United States owned, and political appointees at the White House downplayed the disaster. This administration has utterly failed us.

The second point I want to make this morning is we need to do it now. This is not rocket science. We need to move gun control legislation this week, before we go home.

The best security is a bright light. Americans want to know we have a responsibility to enact sensible gun control laws.

First, we need to pass these high-capacity ammunition clips that are impeding our ability to stop criminals. This is not the movie Matrix. We are not having gunfights with drug lords on the streets. The average citizen has a right to have a gun, and I believe that, but we in Congress have a responsibility to enact sensible gun control laws.

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May 26, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE 11103

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to support sensible gun safety legislation to protect our young people. We have a lot of problems in this country and espionage is one of them, but the most pressing problem we have today is gun violence. We need to pass sensible gun safety legislation now.

First, we need to pass child safety locks, so that babies and young people cannot get ready access to guns and have accidents of tragic consequences.

Second, we need background checks at pawn shops and at gun shows, so thugs cannot buy guns off the market and then sell them in our communities to our young people.

Third, we need to ban these high-capacity ammunition clips that are impeding our ability to stop criminals. This is not the movie Matrix. We are not having gunfights with drug lords on the streets. The average citizen has a right to have a gun, and I believe that, but we in Congress have a responsibility to enact sensible gun control laws.

The second point I want to make this morning is we need to do it now. This is not rocket science. We need to move on gun control legislation this week, before we go home.

Mr. GIBBON. Mr. Speaker, my parents told me that the best security is a bright light. Americans want to know if the Chinese nuclear arsenal was built on the genius of American scientists and on the backs of the American taxpayers.

Our counterintelligence at the Department of Energy has been a specific concern of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for some time, and we all deserve answers.

This Congress must pursue investigative public hearings based on information provided by the Cox Committee that examines Chinese-directed espionage against the United States, including efforts to steal nuclear and military secrets; that will examine Chinese-directed covert action type activities conducted against the United States, such as the use of agents to influence and efforts to subvert or otherwise manipulate the U.S. political process.

Mr. Speaker, Motel 6, I think, has a motto: We’ll keep the lights on.” Unfortunately, the White House has turned the lights off, and now our national security is at stake.

America deserves answers, and that is what they shall get. I yield back to America all the lights they may need and any national security we have left.