children cannot guarantee that there will never be a single crime there. And it is a reality — we may not have the answer any time soon.

But detecting and treating mental illnesses in children is just one way to reduce the risks of school violence. Researchers know that psychiatric disorders in children arise from a complex mixture of factors — genetic vulnerability, social environment, history of traumatic experiences, level of psychological and cognitive strength. They also know that interventions as early as an elementary school can protect at-risk children.

“These are troubled kids,” continues D’Alli. “The whole concept is to treat [the problem] early. If you don’t, you’re not sure where it will lead.” So why isn’t there a louder outcry from parents and teachers for mental health services in schools? Part of the answer is money. Good mental health services are labor-intensive and costly. The other part is leadership.

President Bush was quick to express his sorrow. “We’re going to teach these children right from wrong . . . our country will not endure this sorrow.” When America teaches their children right from wrong . . . our country will not endure this sorrow. "When America teaches their children right from wrong . . . our country will not endure this sorrow." When America teaches their children right from wrong our country will not endure this sorrow.

Most recently, on March 25, Belarusian authorities cracked down on participants of the Independence Day march, arresting and beating several protestors, subsequently fining and jailing some, including Belarusian Popular Front Chairman Vintsuk Vyachorka, who received a 15-day sentence on March 29, Ales Bialiatski, head of the human rights center “Viasna”, who received a 10-day sentence, and Yuri Belenky, acting chairman of the Conservative Christian Party, who also received a 10-day sentence. Also detained and beaten was 17-year-old Dmitri Yegorov, a photojournalist for a Grodno-based, non-state newspaper.

On the day of the march, Belarusian state television accused the opposition of “seeking to draw Belaruses into some bloody turmoil,” reflecting its increasingly shrill tone of late. Earlier this year, for instance, Belarusian television claimed the CIA was intensifying “subversive activity” as the presidential election draws nearer. On March 24, Belarus’ KGB chief pledged on Belarusian television to intensify surveillance of foreigners in order to prevent them from interfering in the country’s domestic matters.

On March 12, Lukashenka signed Decree #8, which essentially imposes restrictions from abroad offered to NGOs for democracy building and human rights, including election monitoring. Moreover, the Belarusian Government has claimed that the OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group’s (AMG) domestic election observing project does not conform with the Belarusian Constitution and Electoral Code, although nowhere does the law address the conduct of election observation, and the government has resisted AMG efforts to convene a working group regarding the administrative dimension of the elections. Lukashenka himself has asserted that he would ban the training of election observers by non-Belarusian bodies, telling reporters: “There will be no guerillas in Belarus.”

Earlier this year, Lukashenka also accused the AMG for “exaggerating the dimension of the elections.” Lukashenka was planning to train some “14,000—18,000 fighters” under the guise of election observers.

Mr. Speaker, I am also concerned about recent assaults on religious communities. Last month, the Council of Ministers restricted visits by foreign clergy for “non-religious purposes”—including contact with religious and other organizations, participation in conferences and other events, or charitable activities. Government officials are also refusing to register some Reform Jewish communities because they do not have “legal addresses.”

And Russia’s Federal Security Service has begun to target those community groups in Russia. In January, a member of a community group was arrested for distributing anti-Semitic booklets. And in February, a deputy from a Reform Jewish community was charged with violating the Law on Press and Other Mass Media. Over 150 people have been summoned to “self-control” meetings by the Ministry of Education. Over 70 schools have been closed at the insistence of the Ministry of Education.

Religious freedom is not the only liberty in peril. Freedom of the press and of self-expression are also in jeopardy. Editors of a variety of newspapers are being harassed for fines for violating the Law on Press and Other Mass Media. Various periodicals are being confiscated and destroyed, and distributors of independent newspapers have been arrested. Religious organizations have been accused of engaging in activities that weaken the secular state and undermine the expenditures into the economy.

Teenagers have been arrested for picketing and protesting, and others have been detained for distributing newspapers or pasting stickers advocating reform and calling on the authorities to solve the cases of political prisoners. Belarusian Television and Radio (BTR) has also canceled scheduled addresses to be made by potential presidential candidates or opposition leaders. The Deputy Minister of Education has ordered heads of the educational community to ban seminars conducted by the People’s University.

Lukashenka has also undertaken repressive acts against the potential presidential candidates and their families in an attempt to thwart their campaign progress.

Family members of former Prime Minister Ernest Lukashenka have been charged with opposing him. His son, Alexander, has been charged with large scale larceny. Chigir is not the only potential candidate whose actions have been thwarted by Lukashenka. Semyon Domash’s meeting with potential voters at the Tourist Hotel was canceled on orders from the Mogelev authorities and a director of the clubhouse of the Best Association of Hearing-Impaired People lost her job after hosting a February 3 voters’ meeting with Domash. Vladimir Goncharik, a labor leader, has had to deal with newly state-created “unions” trying to muscle out unions supporting him. Two officials of a manufacturing plant were reprimanded by a Borisov city court for hosting a meeting between Chigir and employees at the plant.

When one looks at these and other recent actions of the Lukashenka regime, the inescapable conclusion is that the regime has created an unhealthy environment in advance of the elections. Mr. Speaker, the regime’s behavior is obviously not conducive to the promotion of free and fair elections.

Mr. Speaker, today, along with Representative FRANK, I will be introducing a bill I filed last Congress, the “FHA Shutdown Prevention Act.” This legislation provides standby budget authority for HUD to keep a number of FHA loan programs operating even when they run out of credit subsidy, by drawing on the profits from the other FHA specialty loan programs that make a profit for the taxpayer. As Congress debates the issue of what we might do with the multi-billion dollar annual FHA surplus, I think most would agree that the first thing we should not do is shut down important existing FHA loan programs merely because of budget technicalities and Congressional and Executive inaction. Yet, that is precisely what looms on the near horizon, for the second time in less than a year.

Last July, HUD was forced to suspend insurance for a number of multi-family and single family loans in the General Insurance/Special Risk Insurance (GI/SRI) Funds. These included a number of multi-family loan programs, the FHA reverse mortgage program, the 203(k) purchase-rehab program, and other important loan programs for low- and moderate-income families. These programs were not suspended because FHA as a whole is unprofitable since all of the FHA loan programs combined make a net profit to the taxpayer of over $2 billion a year, according to CBO and OMB. These programs were not even suspended because the GI/SRI Funds as a whole are unprofitable, because the profitable specialized FHA loan programs in the GI/SRI Funds make a profit sufficient to pay for the few specialized loan programs that run a small loss.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

The reason HUD was forced to suspend these programs is that Congress in effect pockets the profits from FHA programs and uses them to offset other funding or to increase the surplus, while the programs that are projected to run a small loss require an appropriation for a “credit subsidy.” This credit subsidy is calculated as the projected percentage loss per loan times the expected loan volume for each insurance program.

When the credit subsidy runs out, HUD has no legal authority to guarantee new loans for the affected loan programs. Last year, when credit subsidies ran out and Congress failed to enact a supplemental credit subsidy appropriation in a timely manner, HUD was forced to suspend the programs. This year, because of favorable interest rates and increasing demand for the construction of affordable rental housing, it seems likely that we will run out of credit subsidy sometime this spring or summer.

At a time when there is increasing bi-partisan support to increase our supply of affordable housing, it makes no sense to shut down the government’s loan guarantee program for private sector development of affordable housing. At a time when there is increasing Congressional interest in reinvesting the huge FHA surplus in other housing programs, it ought to start by reserving a very tiny portion of that surplus to make sure that basic FHA programs are not shut down.

The FHA Shutdown Prevention Act would do just that. Last year, this legislation was supported by the National Association of Homebuilders, the National Association of Realtors, the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the National Housing Conference, the National Reverse Mortgage Lenders Association, the Home Improvement Lenders Association, the National Renovation Lenders Association, and America’s Community Bankers.

Their joint support letter noted that last year’s suspension “caused delays and disruption affecting the multifamily insurance programs and resulted in delays of construction of needed affordable rental housing and will probably result in the loss of some projects that are no longer feasible due to delays. In addition, the shortfall in the credit subsidy appropriation resulted in the suspension of a number of single family insurance programs.”

Don’t let this happen again this year. I urge Congress to pass the “FHA Shutdown Prevention Act” immediately.

SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL CHILDREN’S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleague SHELLY BERKLEY to introduce this concurrent resolution supporting National Children’s Memorial Flag Day.

This concurrent resolution supports the commemoration of the 4th Friday of each April as National Children’s Memorial Flag Day. In addition this resolution encourages national, State, and local agencies and private organizations to fly the Children’s Memorial Flag to remember the children lost to violence and to raise public awareness about the continuing problem of violence against children.

I support this bill nationally because of its successful observance in my Congressional district. In 1996, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors adopted the Children’s Memorial Flag Project, and established a National Children’s Memorial Day on the fourth Friday in the month of April to remember children who have died by violence. I want to commend Supervisor Gail Steele of Alameda County for her tireless work and dedication to get this resolution adopted. In addition, the California Assembly formally declared the fourth Friday in April as a statewide annual observance day. The Child Welfare League of America has adopted Alameda County’s Children’s Memorial Flag and promotes it nationally.

This Congressional resolution is particularly timely in the wake of the two school shootings in California at Granite Hills High School in El Cajon, California and Santana High School in Santee, California. Unfortunately, acts of violence against children happen far too often. According to the Child Welfare League of America, three in ten children die from abuse and neglect in the U.S. each day, and ten children die a day as a result of gun violence. In fact, more children lose their lives to criminal violence in the U.S. than in any of the 26 industrialized nations of the world.

We have lost far too many children in violent, preventable deaths. I encourage my colleagues in Congress to work with renewed resolve to ensure that our children have a full opportunity to become healthy and productive adults. Even one child lost is one child too many.

I urge my fellow members to support the National Children’s Memorial Flag Day concurrent resolution.

HONORING INDUCTEES INTO MOBILE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
APRIL 4, 2001

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to four outstanding gentlemen who will be inducted into the Mobile Sports Hall of Fame on April 12, 2001. I would like to recognize their extraordinary and tireless service to the people of the state of Alabama. These gentlemen’s perseverance and commitment have left a lasting imprint on Alabama sports history. Their efforts have cultivated a fine group of young men and women prepared to combat any of life’s challenges.

The first inductee is Charles T. Rhodes, who began his illustrious 42 years of service in 1946 as a teacher and assistant football coach at Mobile Training School in Plateau, Alabama. Under Mr. Rhodes’ direction, the school to succeed in school. He brought his expertise to beyond the call of duty to ensure that all the children received the attention they needed to succeed in school. He brought his expertise to Murphy High School where he served as an assistant principal. Mr. Rhodes...