Matthew Allan

From:

Sent:

Monday, June 6, 2022 8:40 AM

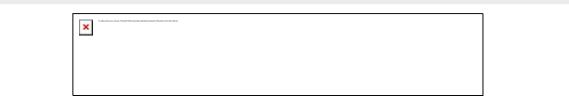
To: Subject:

Hoyer: Update on the June Work Period; OSRA Included

From: Majority Leader < Majority Leader 4@mail.house.gov >

Sent: Friday, June 3, 2022 6:32 PM

To: Majority Leader < <u>MajorityLeader4@mail.house.gov</u>> **Subject:** Dear Colleague: Update on the June Work Period



June 3, 2022

Dear ColleagueUpdate on the June Work Period

Dear Colleague:

The three-week legislative work session this June will be a pivotal one for the future of our country. While we confront gun violence, inflation, the mental health and opioid abuse crisis, the pandemic, the possible overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, threats to our democracy, and Vladimir Putin's criminal and murderous invasion of Ukraine, our Majority will continue to focus on addressing immediate crises while ensuring that we can keep making progress on longer term challenges as well. Our efforts during the June legislative work period will reflect that determination.

On May 24, our nation was again shocked and horrified by the mass murder of young children in an elementary school by an assailant using military-grade firearms, this time in Uvalde, Texas. As our nation grieves and offers comfort to the families of the nineteen children and two teachers who were killed, our Majority is more determined than ever to enact reforms that will help prevent mass shootings like this one in the future. We mourn for the victims of Uvalde and Tulsa even as we still freshly grieve for those who perished in Buffalo and Laguna Grove and those killed in the daily attacks that do not make national news.

Today is National Gun Violence Awareness Day, when we wear orange to signify a day of action to promote gun safety legislation. The House has already taken action, passing H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, and H.R. 1446, the Enhanced Background Checks Act, both of which are being filibustered by Senate Republicans. During the week of June 6, the House will take further action, voting on H.R. 2377, Rep. Lucy McBath and Rep. Salud Carbajal's Federal Extreme Risk Protection Order Act.

We will also take up H.R. 7910, the Protecting Our Kids Act, led by Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler, House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Chairman Mike Thompson, and Homeland Security Subcommittee Chairwoman Sheila Jackson-Lee. This package would raise the legal age of purchase for certain semiautomatic rifles, crack down on gun trafficking, establish safety requirements for residential storage of dangerous firearms, and ban bump stocks and high-capacity magazines as well as ghost guns. This bill includes titles introduced by a number of Members who have been deeply engaged with this issue, and I thank all of them for their hard work to improve the safety of our children and our communities. The House will vote on each title as well as on passage of the full bill in order to place Republicans on record on each of these issues relating to gun safety. It's unfortunate none of the Republican Members of the Judiciary Committee voted in favor of the bill during Committee consideration. Also this first week, the House will vote on a resolution from Rep. Jamaal Bowman condemning the dangerous and violence-promoting 'Great Replacement' conspiracy theory. This vile ideology has been cited by domestic terrorists and perpetrators of gun-violence targeting minorities, and it is critical that Members of Congress be on record condemning it.

In addition to gun-safety legislation, the House will take other important actions next week. These include bringing H.R. 7776, a bipartisan reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), to the Floor under suspension of the rules. Passed every two years, WRDA authorizes projects by the Army Corps of Engineers to address the needs of our nation's harbors and waterways, improve flood safety and climate resilience, and restore and protect the environment. We will also consider H.R. 7667, Rep. Anna Eshoo's Food and Drug Amendments legislation, also under suspension. This comprehensive, bipartisan legislation will reauthorize the Food and Drug Administration's user-fee programs to improve its review of drugs, biologics, and medical devices.

The following week, the House will consider legislation to address inflation and help bring costs down for Americans. Right now, Americans are struggling with higher prices when they purchase essentials, and House Democrats are working hard to help ease that burden. To that end, thanks to the leadership of Chairmen David Scott and Frank Pallone we will take up legislation from the Agriculture and Energy and Commerce Committees to address food prices and help bring down the cost of fertilizer for farmers while providing more affordable options at the gas pump for Americans. The House will also consider S. 3586, the Senate-passed companion to Rep. John Garamendi's Ocean Shipping Reform Act, under suspension. This legislation will address continued supply-chain problems and ensure the fair and

expeditious flow of goods in and out of our ports, helping lower costs for American consumers and bolstering our domestic agriculture exports. Also that week, we will vote on legislation from Chairwoman Maxine Waters and the Financial Services Committee to promote racial equity and fairer access to economic opportunity for those who are facing discrimination or bias. This will help families who are challenged in accessing financial services and housing at a time when every dollar is critical. Finally, the House will also consider H.R. 2773, Rep. Debbie Dingell's bipartisan Recovering America's Wildlife Act.

The most important step Congress can take right now to ease inflation is to enact a bipartisan innovation bill to strengthen supply chains and encourage more domestic manufacturing of in-demand products and components. We will be ready to act whenever House and Senate conferees reach agreement on bipartisan innovation legislation to achieve those goals.

During the week of June 20, the House will consider a package of bills to improve access to mental health care. We will vote on bipartisan legislation led by Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers to address the mental health and opioid abuse crises. The legislation expands access to treatment for opioid-use disorders, promotes behavioral-health integration, and reauthorizes critical programs to support mental health and substance-use-disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery, including in children. We will also address bills from Chairman Bobby Scott and Members of the Education and Labor Committee to address mental health, addiction, and suicide on college campuses. I want to thank them all for their strong leadership on this critical issue. The House will also take up H.R. 6411, Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Mark Takano's STRONG Veterans Act, bipartisan legislation to combat veteran suicide and address mental health and help our nation meet its commitment to those who risked their lives and safety for our country.

Additionally during the week of June 20, we will consider H.R. 5585, Rep. Eshoo's ARPA-H Act, under a rule. This legislation would establish the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), an independent agency tasked with accelerating biomedical innovation and making transformative breakthroughs in the fight against the most challenging diseases. This agency will oversee the next steps in the cancer moonshot program and help meet the President's goal of cutting the cancer death rate by at least 50% over the next twenty-five years. I also anticipate that the House will vote on a compromise, bipartisan Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act after the Senate takes action on the version agreed upon in May, which preserves much of the House-passed legislation to care for veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic chemicals during their service.

This legislative work period, we will be celebrating Juneteenth as a federal holiday for the second time in America's history. Last year, our Majority took the historic step of enacting legislation to recognize Juneteenth as a federal holiday at long last, and I look forward to celebrating with our colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus and with all Members as we pay tribute to freedom and the history of African-American perseverance and triumph over injustice and adversity. This work continues as we fight for voting rights, equal justice for all, and equity in economic opportunity.

Throughout June, we also celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month. As we pay tribute to the courage and perseverance of LGBTQ Americans throughout history and in the fight for equality, our Majority will continue to look for ways to help LGBTQ Americans and their families stay safe in their communities and build their lives free from discrimination. That's why I will bring up H.R. 4176, the LGBTQ Data Inclusion Act, during the last week of the June legislative work period. This bill would require federal agencies to use voluntary surveys to self-disclosed information on sexual orientation and gender identity so that policymakers can be better informed as to the full extent of discrimination against LGBTQ Americans and their families.

I thank you again for your hard work and perseverance as we move through a busy spring season. The House may consider additional legislation as it becomes ready for Floor action. As has been the case, I will provide sufficient advanced notice of any changes to the schedule if they are necessary.

As we continue our work on these issues, we look ahead to the Supreme Court's rulings in key cases this term as well as the January 6 Committee's public hearings. We will remain vigilant in our determination to ensure that our democracy remains strong, to make our country safer, and to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of all Americans. Our Majority will continue to deliver results For the People so that all Americans can get ahead and make it in America.

Sincerely,

STENY H. HOYER House Majority Leader