JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE



FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

JEC Vice Chair Maloney to Focus on Gun Violence in Press Conference and Hearing

Joint Economic Committee Vice Chair **Carolyn B. Maloney** (D-NY) on Wednesday, September 18 will discuss gun violence during a 10:00 a.m. press conference and a 2:15 p.m. hearing, both in Washington, DC.

The press conference will focus on the impacts of gun violence, and it will include release of a report on the high cost of gun violence, both human and economic, in the United States – with data on all 50 states.

Gun violence in the United States costs more than \$200 billion annually. The report finds that it takes a greater toll on rural states, which bear the highest per capita economic costs. States with high rates of gun ownership experience the highest rates of gun suicide. The release of these findings coincides with Suicide Prevention Month.

Rep. Maloney will speak, followed by Lori Haas, mother of a survivor of the Virginia Tech massacred and Senior Director of Advocacy for the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence. Adam Skaggs, Policy Director of the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, will also speak.

The press conference will be in room HVC-201-AB, which is in the House side of the Capitol Visitor Center.

PRESS CONFERENCE

- WHO: Rep. Carolyn Maloney, Vice Chair of the U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee Adams Skaggs, Policy Director, Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence Lori Hass, Mother of survivor of Virginia Tech massacre, Senior Director of Advocacy for the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
- WHERE: House Visitors Center, room HVC-210-AB
- WHEN: Wednesday, September 18, 10:00 am

HEARING

The JEC <u>hearing</u>, "Gun Violence in America: Understanding and Reducing the Costs of Firearm Injuries and Deaths," will take place at 2:15 p.m. in 210 Cannon House Office Building. A live stream of the hearing will be available on the Committee website: <u>https://www.jec.senate.gov/</u>.

Hearing Witnesses:

Mr. Adam Skaggs, Chief Counsel & Policy Director Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence New York, NY

Ms. Tina Meins, Member Everytown Survivor Network Washington, DC

Dr. John Lott, Jr., President Crime Prevention Research Center Alexandria, VA

Dr. Suzanna Hupp Former Member of the Texas House of Representatives Lampasas Co., Texas

Hearing Background:

The **witnesses invited by Vice Chair Maloney**—Mr. Skaggs and Ms. Meins—will focus on the high economic, social and personal costs of gun violence and the need to change laws to change results.

Mr. Skaggs will discuss the economic costs of gun violence and advocate for changes to federal laws. Ms. Meins, whose father was killed in the 2015 mass shooting in San Bernardino, California, will share her family's experience after the tragedy and the costs and obstacles they have faced.

Republican witnesses are expected to claim that Democratic proposals will make citizens less safe. Dr. Lott wrote the book "More Guns, Less Crime," and Dr. Hupp is a survivor of the Luby's Cafeteria mass shooting in Texas in 1991.

WHO: U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee, Members and witnesses

WHERE: Room 201, Cannon House Office Building

WHEN: Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Contact: <u>Randy_Woods@jec.senate.gov</u>. *Please contact Randy if you want embargoed testimony*.