

today had the gun lobby not insisted on adding an amendment that would not only have eliminated the District's gun safety laws, but also would have added measures making the nation's capital one of the most permissive gun jurisdictions in the country.

In introducing these bills, we lay down a marker of our determination to never relent or retreat until we have obtained each and every right to which we are entitled, whether through the frustration and anguish of the incrementalism that Congress has always forced upon the District or through statehood. We will be watchful to both make and seize every opportunity to pursue our rights, regardless of who controls Congress. We accept no imposed limit on our equal rights as American citizens, and we will pursue them all until the day when there is no difference in citizenship between residents of the District of Columbia and other American citizens.

REINTRODUCING THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY CENTERS ESTAB- LISHMENT ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the National Emergency Centers Establishment Act, a bill that I first introduced in the 109th Congress. This legislation authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make use of already closed military facilities to coordinate emergency response and provide voluntary humanitarian assistance to Americans displaced by natural disasters.

From Hurricane Katrina to Hurricane Sandy, and numerous other destructive disasters, we have seen time and time again how emergency relief efforts can be complex, expensive, and oftentimes chaotic. Despite the extraordinary efforts can be complex, expensive, and oftentimes chaotic. Despite the extraordinary efforts of agencies like FEMA, the American Red Cross, and other local and national organizations to provide immediate relief, natural disasters can leave tens of thousands of Americans struggling for long periods of time. Sixteen months after Hurricane Katrina, 60,000 Americans were still ill-housed, and struggling to access adequate food and health care, education and jobs. I have seen similar effects following hurricanes in my home state of Florida.

While disaster preparedness, response, and recovery has improved greatly in recent years, difficult challenges remain. I believe that we must increase the availability of temporary housing in times of national emergencies, and improve training and preparedness for national emergencies in order to ensure that we can mitigate as much as possible the humanitarian catastrophes that occurred in the Gulf Coast, the Atlantic Coast, and elsewhere in the nation.

My legislation authorized FEMA to establish six National Emergency Centers throughout the United States. The Centers will be used to provide temporary housing, medical and humanitarian assistance for individuals and families displaced due to an emergency. The Centers will also serve as a centralized location

for the training and coordination of first responders in the instance of an emergency. In addition, the Centers will improve the coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery efforts between governments, private companies, not-for-profit entities and faith-based organizations.

I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that the use of these facilities would be totally voluntary on the part of displaced Americans. No federal agency is authorized under this legislation to force anyone to evacuate to these facilities, nor to force those who voluntarily arrive there to remain longer than they wish. The goal is to provide the facility and means for Americans displaced by disasters to continue leading their lives as much as possible.

The National Emergency Centers will be located on military bases that have been closed during the most recent Base Realignment and Closures (BRAC) round. I am proposing these sites because the necessary infrastructure to house, feed, and care for evacuees over an extended period of time is already in place, thus limiting the cost and time needed to construct these facilities. Military bases often contain large warehouses or hangars, ideal locations for storing large amounts of supplies and equipment. Finally, military bases are often accessible by a wide range of transportation links, and may themselves have train yards or airstrips capable of facilitating the rapid disbursement of supplies or relief efforts.

Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation to better prepare and more adequately respond to the needs of communities hit by natural disasters. Furthermore, we must ensure that basic needs of disaster victims are met immediately following the devastation. The goal of this legislation is to improve humanitarian relief to individuals and families displaced and suffering from the effects of a natural disaster. The idea is to have an accessible central location that can house large numbers of people while providing for their immediate medical and daily needs.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and urge the House Leadership to bring this bill to the floor for its swift consideration.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF EVELYN FILICE STANTON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Evelyn Filice Stanton who died peacefully while on a family vacation on December 29, 2012.

Evelyn was born on December 17, 1926, in Hollister, California, at the apricot and prune ranch of her parents. She lived there until World War II when her father moved the family to San Francisco, where she entered Lowell High School, graduating with the Class of 1944. She earned her A.B. degree from U.C. Berkeley where she met her future husband, returning war veteran Emmett Stanton, whom she married in 1949.

Evelyn earned a teaching credential from San Francisco State University, and taught at El Cerrito High School while Emmett practiced dentistry. The couple moved to San Mateo County in 1952, where they raised their four sons.

Evelyn Stanton served as the President or as a board member of the United Way of the Bay Area; Mills Peninsula Hospital; Belmont Hills Psychiatric Center; AAUW Education Foundation; San Mateo County League of Women Voters; Family Services Association; American Heart Association; Poplar Center for the Developmentally Disabled; the Hillsborough Concours D'Elegance, which she co-chaired with her husband, and for which they were honored as Hillsborough's Citizens of the Year in 1979; San Mateo High School and Crocker Middle School PARENT Groups; Admiralty Home Owners Association; and the Citizen Task Force to study county government operations in 1975–1977.

In 1979, Evelyn began working for the Mental Health Association of San Mateo, her first foray into the paid workforce since her years as a teacher. She became Executive Director in 1979 and served in that post until 2003. Evelyn Stanton distinguished herself in every community organization she was part of but her extraordinary leadership in the mental health community of San Mateo County was legendary. She was "Mrs. Mental Health", shaping and making the system the best in California.

Together we were founding members of the San Mateo County General Hospital Foundation. She was a member of the AIDS Community Board, and Chair of the Mental Health Contract Agencies. Evelyn earned and was awarded many honors—the Soroptomist Woman of the Year; the Evelyn F. Stanton Endowed Fellowship established by AAUW; the Seaton Manning Outstanding Agency Professional Award; and she was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame in 1987.

Evelyn will be deeply missed by her four devoted sons, Gary of San Mateo, Greg of San Diego, Dave of San Francisco, Emmett of San Francisco and her nine beloved grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a great and good woman who served the people of San Mateo County with honor and generosity, earning the respect of the entire community, as well as her colleagues in public service. I ask my colleagues to extend to her family our most sincere sympathy for their loss. Evelyn Stanton will be missed by everyone who had the good fortune to know her, and I count myself among those so blessed. Our community has been strengthened by her life and her service, and our country has been immensely bettered by her extraordinary contributions and a life lived exceedingly well.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was \$10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is \$16,432,619,424,703.06. We've added \$5,804,658,128,772.39 to our debt in 4 years. This is a \$5.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

THE INDUCTION OF JACQUELINE
DOUGLAS INTO THE CALIFORNIA
OUTDOORS HALL OF FAME

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jacqueline Douglas upon her induction into the California Outdoors Hall of Fame. This is a terrific and well-deserved honor for a mainstay of the California sport fishing community.

Jacky, known affectionately as "Wacky Jacky," is a San Francisco native and the only female fishing charter boat skipper in the Bay Area. She is a legendary voice within San Francisco's sport fishing community, respected by fisherman of both Golden Gate and Pacific Coast Salmon fisheries, and one of the Bay Area's most passionate voices for protecting salmon and their habitat. She is a fervent fighter for conservation and water issues, as well as a tremendous advocate for salmon, wildlife, and the California coast.

Jacky has also been a great help to the members of the Bay Area congressional delegation in our efforts to achieve a water policy in California that will sustain all of our state's interests, including the important fisheries that yield so many jobs for people up and down the west coast.

Wacky Jacky was confirmed by a record 40 of 41 votes from peers, the highest vote tally of any member to gain entry into the California Outdoors Hall of Fame. She was nominated due to the fact that she has inspired thousands of Californians to take part in the great outdoors and conservation. She was also previously inducted at the International Sportsmen's Exposition at Sacramento's Cal Expo and honored by the Bay Institute for her dedicated advocacy. And in further recognition of her many accomplishments, Jacky was also inducted into her high school's Abraham Lincoln High School Wall of Fame in May 2002.

With 29 years of fishing experience, she is still taking people from all over the world fishing out the Golden Gate. At 84, she is a hero among her fellow fishing captains, and is one of the most popular party boat captains in America. She was the first and remains the only woman to own and skipper her own commercial boat in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Douglas passed her Coast Guard examination in 1972, purchased her first party boat and has mastered boating, safety and fishing ever since. She started fishing on San Francisco area boats in 1955, and became a deckhand in 1970, after which she skippered a private boat and fished commercially for several years. She became the skipper of the Wacky Jacky in 1973, unheard of for a woman at the time.

Jacky is well known for taking good care of her customers, and says the most important thing is, "to have my customers leave with a smile on their face." In the meantime, Jacky, continually improves her sailing skills, has now earned her master mariner's license which permits her to skipper boats up to 100 tons. Over her career, she has taken an estimated 150,000 people out to fish.

Her unique position on the bay has made Jacky a part of what makes San Francisco such an incredible place. She has inspired numerous newspaper articles as well as television spots on CNN and National Geographic. During her career, Jacky has won a number of awards, including honors from the Commonwealth Club and the Golden Gate Fisherman's Association. Her work with newspapers, radio show hosts and TV broadcasts has made it easier for Californians to connect to the world of the outdoors. She was married to George Douglas and has four daughters.

I invite our colleagues to join me in congratulating Jacqueline Douglas, a woman beloved by all that meet her, for her lifelong efforts in fishing and conservation and her dedication to educating others about the outdoors.

**HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN JO
ANN EMERSON**

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an incredible woman, role model, public servant, and friend.

Over the past several decades putting people before politics has been a way of life for Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson. Whether it was an agricultural issue, flood control problems, a small business in trouble or a Veteran who needed help—there were no Democrats or Republicans to Jo Ann, just constituents.

Jo Ann truly represents the people of Missouri's 8th District by listening to them and then working hard to make a difference. Putting people before politics was not just a slogan to her—it was the way the gentle lady from Missouri's sprawling 8th District operates. She epitomized what being a Member of the People's House should be.

Her legacy of service and that of her late husband Bill Emerson will not be forgotten and she remains an example for all of us in this body. Her service will be remembered because of the lives she has touched by doing what was right because it was right.

While I am excited for Congresswoman Emerson in her new endeavor, I am sad for the great loss to this chamber and to the people of Missouri's 8th District.

**INTRODUCING A BILL TO REQUIRE
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
TO SUBMIT A REPORT
TO CONGRESS ON PAYMENT
RATES FOR SCHOOL MEALS AND
SUPPLEMENTS**

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that will provide this Congress with the information we need to determine whether the U.S. Department of Agri-

culture is correctly reimbursing schools in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for student meals.

Congress has already recognized that there may be costs in the insular and non-contiguous areas of our nation that are different than those in the continental United States and for this reason gave the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to set adjusted reimbursement rates in 42 U.S.C. 1760(f):

In providing assistance for breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and supplements served in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Secretary may establish appropriate adjustments for each such State to the national average payment rates prescribed under sections 1753, 1759a, 1761 and 1766 of this title and section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, to reflect the differences between the costs of providing meals and supplements in those States and the costs of providing meals and supplements in all other States.

[Here "States" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the named U.S. insular areas.]

The Secretary has used this authority to set adjusted—and place-appropriate rates—for both Alaska and Hawaii, where transportation and other factors add to the cost of providing meals in the schools. In the other insular areas—the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—however, where distance and reverse economies of scale can increase costs just as in Alaska and Hawaii, schools are reimbursed at the standard national rate that applies throughout the continental U.S.

Those of us who shuttle between our duties in Congress and the insular areas we represent are familiar with the costs of food and other services both here and at home. We know that there are differences. And, if these differences mean that children in our areas are receiving less food or less nutritious food or no food at all because the current reimbursement rates are inadequate, then we need that information. By the same token—though this is not my expectation—if the federal government is overpaying, then Congress needs to know that, as well.

The legislation I am introducing today requires the Secretary of Agriculture to report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate on:

1. the difference between the costs of providing meals and supplements under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and the average cost of providing these meals and supplements in the 50 States and the District of Columbia; and

2. the relationship of those cost differences and the reimbursement rates offered to the insular areas.

Accurate information, such as this legislation will provide to Congress, is essential for accurate policy-making. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this bill and thank them for their support.