

that none of us can ever imagine. Do you think this offensive would convince Putin to come to the table and negotiate a peace agreement? Well, I would hope that we would go, but we do not seem to want to make a peace agreement. We had better, and we had better do it in the very near future.

This will provoke him to even more deadly weapons if they continue to attack them within their borders, costing more and more lives. NATO and the United States would be forced to respond as a result.

We are trying to create a war. We must consider these questions thoroughly before we involve ourselves in another one of these crazy conflicts that should never happen.

Improvising won't cut it. Now is the time for the United States to lead and negotiate a peace to the end of this bloody war.

I keep hearing people say: Well, we are building equipment for our military—yes, right—or our men and women are not losing their lives.

We are getting close to it. We are getting very close.

Now, look, I come from a military State in the State of Alabama. We build everything. We have thousands of troops. I want it to be well funded and well equipped if we ever have to fight a war. We need a lethal killing machine to deter other aggression. That is what a military is about.

This is not about defunding our military. I want our military laser-focused on protecting Americans and not woke DEI initiatives.

And it is not about abandoning our allies either. We need to support our allies.

It is about this administration's funding a proxy war with no plan—zero—no plan on how to stop it or how to win it.

The Biden-Harris administration needs to negotiate a peace agreement now, immediately, or there will be huge disastrous consequences coming in the very near future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

#### DISASTER RELIEF

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, it is good that the Senate and the House are working on a bipartisan basis to pass a short-term spending bill to keep the government open. But make no mistake, our work is not over, because, once again, we are leaving town, for a long period of time, not having passed disaster aid to help survivors on Maui and elsewhere.

Over the past 13 months, since tragic fires tore down the town of Lahaina and claimed 102 lives, I have been here on the floor repeatedly pressing for urgent disaster relief, and in that time, more disasters have devastated communities all over the country.

So many people on Maui and in Texas and Vermont and New Mexico and California and Iowa and Florida and in 20 States total and, unfortunately, ris-

ing—they are waiting for help, and the Federal Government has not come to their aid yet. They have lost loved ones. They have lost homes. They have lost businesses. They have lost livelihoods. And all they want is help and a little bit of hope to get their lives back to something close to normal.

What are we doing as a Congress if we can't even deliver help to our fellow Americans when disaster strikes?

So when we return in November, passing disaster aid has to be the top priority of the U.S. Congress. There is no excuse not to do this.

What is being asked of us is what Congress always does. We simply need to do the thing that we have always done, which is to show up for disaster survivors and get them the help that they need.

And if you are a Member that represents any of the 20-odd States that need this help, we need your help. And if you are a Member from one of the other 30 States, there but for the grace of God go I. It will always come around. Everyone needs disaster help. So consider it your priority, even if your State, thank God, hasn't been hit this year or last—even if you don't have 20 or 30,000 victims waiting for help.

This is an American priority, and we cannot close up shop for this Congress, leaving all these Americans behind.

#### TRIBUTE TO DABNEY HEGG

Mr. President, this week caps a remarkable 28-year run in the U.S. Senate for Dabney Hegg, the Democratic clerk and staff director for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, which I chair.

A career in public service spanning nearly three decades is extraordinary by any measure, but it is all the more impressive considering its trajectory, which began when Dabney was an intern in the office of her home State Senator, the late Senator Fritz Hollings of South Carolina. She worked her way up in his office to become a legislative assistant and went on to serve him and my great and heroic predecessor Senator Daniel K. Inouye on the Commerce Committee.

She ultimately joined the Appropriations Committee in 2010 and has been the Democratic clerk of the T-HUD Subcommittee for nearly a decade, beginning under the leadership of Senator JACK REED.

Dabney is everything you want in a public servant—smart, relentless, passionate, and loyal—and she is an appropriator's appropriator. What does that mean? She always gets to yes, and she always gets everyone else to yes. And the reason for that is evident from the first interaction with her. She is clear about what is important, and she is not afraid to fight for it.

As appropriators, we are the ones that are supposed to cut deals and shake hands, but, on some level, that is the easy part. Then it is on the clerks, like Dabney, to scrap it out down to

the last dime and get the bill written and over the finish line.

And they do it away from the spotlight and without much fanfare, burying themselves in spreadsheets and statutes, toiling over every last digit and decimal, and rising above the partisan bickering to deliver more homes and better roads and safer transportation.

Dabney has had a hand in just about every major funding accomplishment in recent memory. Through appropriations, she has helped deliver record funding for Native housing and Tribal transportation, as well as our first-of-its-kind "Yes In My Backyard" grant program to get more homes built across the country.

And beyond that, she has been a key partner in advancing priorities through major bills like the IIJA, the American Rescue Plan, and even the FAA reauthorization.

For Hawaii, Dabney has always been a friend and an advocate, helping to secure funding for the HART rail system and the Honoapiilani Highway realignment, among many other projects.

And this past year, after the devastating fires on Maui, she made it her mission to get survivors relief, much as she has done for so many communities struck by disaster.

But that is just who she is. She understands that behind the numbers and the estimates and the stipulations that we deal with every day, there are real people and real communities whose lives stand to be materially improved by the work that we do. And that is a valuable reminder for all of us, whether you have worked here for 30 years or 3 months.

And so I want to sincerely thank Dabney for her years of partnership and her decades of service to the Senate, to the country, and the State of Hawaii.

We all wish her and her family nothing but the best in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF ROUTE 91 HARVEST FESTIVAL SHOOTING

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, this year will mark 7 years since my community of Las Vegas was forever changed on October 1, 2017.

On that night, we experienced a tragedy on a scale far worse than anyone could have ever imagined. Ten minutes—10 minutes—is all it took for a gunman to open fire on an unsuspecting crowd at a music festival, killing 58 innocent lives, injuring thousands, and leaving a permanent scar on our State.

Sadly, in the years since, two more victims of that night's attack died because of injuries they received during the shooting, bringing the death toll to 60. It remains the deadliest mass shooting in American history.

The families of the victims of that tragedy had their world shattered that day, their lives forever changed—the

families who didn't get to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, holidays; and the families who never got to say good-bye to their loved ones.

That night also changed the lives in our city—people who were attending or working at the Route 91 Harvest Festival, the first responders who ran toward danger to save lives. And in the following days, we saw lines of people, lines of people around entire blocks willing to donate blood, willing to help in any way they could.

This kind of selflessness embodies the incredible spirit of our community. It showed the country why we are Vegas Strong. And as we remember and as we reflect on this tragedy, we must also commit ourselves to action so that no community has to experience the pain and suffering like we did.

The 1 October shooter was able to inflict as much pain and carnage as he did by using bump stocks. This dangerous modification allowed his weapon to fire more bullets faster as a way to inflict the most amount of pain on our city. Over 1,000 bullets—1,000 bullets—in just a matter of minutes.

And it was in response to this carnage that then-President Donald Trump issued a Federal rule banning bump stocks. It helped save lives from these deadly modifications.

But, unfortunately, the Supreme Court overturned this commonsense Federal ban, allowing bump stocks to flow into our streets once again. This shameful decision—shameful decision—by the Supreme Court will put more lives at risk, which is why I joined bipartisan legislation to restore this commonsense Federal ban on bump stocks.

And when Members of this Chamber tried to pass this bipartisan legislation, extremists in this body, what did they do? They blocked us. And some even had the audacity to say: This legislation was trying to solve a fake problem—a fake problem.

Should we tell the families who lost a loved one at the hands of a firearm using a bump stock on October 1 that it is a fake problem? A fake problem that they are sad at every holiday and every meal and every Thanksgiving table that their loved one is missing? A fake problem? Their grief is real; their loss is real; and their loss is forever. This is not a fake problem; it is a very real problem. And there are real solutions. But once again, Congress has failed year after year to act.

Las Vegas knows what the real threat of bump stocks are and why we must act. And as we approach the seventh anniversary of this unthinkable tragedy, I ask all my colleagues in this Chamber to remember and to honor the memories of the victims, to honor their families, to honor everyone whose lives are forever changed from the night and the shooting on October 1, 2017.

I also ask that we come together, Republicans and Democrats, in a bipartisan way to save lives by just passing commonsense legislation to ban bump stocks.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleague from Nevada Senator JACKY ROSEN to commemorate 7 years since the deadliest mass shooting in America's recent history. And as you can see from her previous comments, she is always, always fighting for Nevadans, working to protect our families in Nevada. And I am just so proud to be able to work alongside her representing the great State of Nevada.

As you have heard, 7 years ago, people from across the country gathered in Las Vegas for the Route 91 Harvest music festival. These were 3 days of live performances and dancing and fun. My niece was there. And October 1, what was supposed to be a joyous conclusion to the festival turned into a complete nightmare. In just 10 minutes from the window of a nearby hotel, a gunman fired more than 1,000 shots into the festival crowd.

Mr. President, 58 people were killed, and 2 more died later from their injuries. More than 800 were wounded, and thousands of families were forever changed.

Now, I remember sitting with some of them at the reunification center, hoping and praying that their loved ones would return to them. I will tell you what, though, some prayers were never answered, and that was heart-breaking.

But as the city of Las Vegas mourned, we also came together. Neighbors reached out to one another and helped each other heal. Programs were created to help our city cope and move forward. We were resilient because we are "Vegas Strong."

Out of tragedy and suffering, there was hope. Let me tell you about something that gives me hope: 3 weeks after the events of October 1, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Clark County set up the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center as a resource for the survivors of the Route 91 Harvest festival and their families.

After a tragedy like a mass shooting, the families, the victims, and survivors alike have to adjust to a new normal. Imagine living through the horrors of that October night and learning to heal from those injuries or grieving the loss of a loved one whose life was taken so suddenly by a senseless act of violence.

Then imagine, after you have been left with all of that trauma, that you are now faced with the complexity of paying medical bills or dealing with insurance companies. It is overwhelming. And where do you even begin? How are you going to navigate it all through your own emotional stress?

The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center was designed to ensure that families didn't have to go through that process alone. The center brought community partners with different resources to the table to deliver anything that the survivors might need from support groups,

to mental health services, to financial advice.

And I have seen some of their great work myself. Their incredible executive director Tennille Pereira shared this story of a survivor of October 1, who, after recovering from being shot that night, could no longer make her way up the stairs to reach her apartment. In response to that, her landlord threatened to evict her. So she got in touch with Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. The center contacted her landlord, got the landlord to back down, and then helped her move to another apartment that was accessible to her.

This is what happens when the community comes together to help each other. The Resiliency Center connected survivors with the resources they need right when they need them. It gave survivors hope, and it helped them find light in the darkness.

In the 7 years since its establishment, the center not only helped survivors of the Route 91 Harvest Festival, but through the lessons learned from that crisis, it actually improved services for victims of violent crime throughout Southern Nevada, and that includes human trafficking survivors, domestic abuse survivors, and even first responders who have post-traumatic stress.

And when Las Vegas was struck by another tragedy last year after a gunman killed three people at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the staff at the Resiliency Center were able to immediately respond, providing resources and programs for students, families, faculty, and staff.

In January of this year, the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center was renamed the Resiliency and Justice Center, and its mission expanded to serve all survivors of violent crime in Southern Nevada.

They are continuing to grow their staff and their resources, and they are even getting ready to expand their offices. I am so proud to support the work of the Resiliency and Justice Center. At a time when our city was truly shaken to its core, they were there to help us get back on our feet, to help us remember that life goes on after loss, to help us find the strength to rebuild as a community.

And now as we mark 7 years since that terrible evening at the Route 91 Harvest Festival, we also mark 7 years of hope and resilience in the city of Las Vegas.

We hold the victims and their families in our hearts forever, and we remain Vegas Strong.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

MOTION TO PROCEED—S. CON. RES. 41

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to modify the order of September 24 so that following my allotted time, Senator WHITEHOUSE be permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes, followed by myself for an additional 5 minutes, prior to being recognized to