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INTRODUCTION OF THE DONATE FOR DISASTER RELIEF ACT OF 2019

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Donate for Disaster Relief Act.

Last year, there were 53 major disasters declared. The year before that, we had 61 declared major disasters. As we continue to feel the effects of climate change, there are going to be more major disasters and we as a nation are going to have to pay for the response and repair after these events. Now is the time to start thinking about what we can do to be better prepared for when these disasters strike.

That is why I am introducing the Donate for Disaster Relief Act, which creates a completely voluntary check-off on income tax returns that lets taxpayers elect to donate to a disaster relief trust. This bill is an opportunity for us to share our selflessness and generosity and be better prepared to adequately fund our response to an emergency situation.

The harsh reality of disasters is that while we may not be able to predict when or where they will always occur, we certainly can be prepared. The altruism of the American people is on display in their willingness to pitch in and help those in their greatest time of need. This bill creates an easy way for concerned Americans to anticipate the need for disaster relief, wherever and whenever it may be necessary.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this critically important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHAIRMAN ALLEN E. LAWSON OF THE SAN PASQUAL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition and honor of Chairman Allen E. Lawson of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians. Chairman Lawson has served for 22 years in a leadership position for the Tribe, headquartered in the Valley Center area of California's 50th Congressional District, and retired from his chairmanship on January 13, 2019. During his tenure, Chairman Lawson was firmly focused on Tribal welfare and increased prosperity for all members of the Tribe.

Under his leadership, San Pasqual's Tribal government grew from three employees to over 100 employees, resulting in significant increases in services to over 400 Tribal families living on the reservation. Chairman Lawson's leadership was instrumental with the establishment of Valley View Casino, a business that continues to thrive, generating revenue for the

entire Tribe and benefitted the reservation by creating new Tribal Fire and Police Departments that were dedicated to ensuring the safety of all Tribal residents. Chairman Lawson also established one of the few fully accredited Native American Fire Academies and, over the last 10 years, the academy has proudly trained over 1,000 first responders that help protect both the reservation and the surrounding community. Chairman Lawson successfully expanded the Tribal Education Center, resulting in increased high school graduation rates, more graduates headed to colleges, and the preservation of the Tribe's history, traditions and culture.

During his tenure, the Tribal Public Works, Water, and Environmental Departments were also established, and, after decades of negotiations with four other Native American tribes, Chairman Lawson was an integral part of the negotiation that finally settled and secured the entitled rights to the San Luis Rey watershed. Chairman Lawson was also instrumental in launching an Inter-Tribal Alliance in which Tribes and Federal agencies would partner collaboratively on construction projects thereby reducing costs, maximizing resources and providing jobs to Native Americans.

It is for these accomplishments and many more that Chairman Lawson should be recognized. The legacy of any leader is the impact and significant contributions they have made to greatly influence the lives of those around them. Chairman Lawson's guiding principle and singular focus has been the past, current, and future generations of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians and I am confident that his legacy will never be forgotten and always appreciated.

COMMENDING DON GRIMSLEY FOR HIS IMPACT ON HALL COUNTY'S YOUTH COMMUNITY

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don Grimsley for the incredible impact he has made in Hall County. Over the last decade, Mr. Grimsley has given countless hours to many youth organizations, and last month, he was recognized for his service as the Gainesville Kiwanis Club honored him with the 2019 John W. Jacobs Jr. Youth Service Award.

Mr. Grimsley first experienced his call to service when his son was born with spina bifida. With inspiration from his daughter, they launched Rolling Hearts, a charity for individuals with spina bifida that raises money for the neuroscience department at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, among other things. Mr. Grimsley and his wife also sat on the board of the Spina Bifida Association of Georgia, helping educate the community and working to give children with spina bifida a great and normal life. In addition to helping children with spina bifida, Mr. Grimsley also serves as Eagle Scoutmaster, statistician for North Hall Middle School's basketball team, and the Watch D.O.G.S. program, which increases the presence of male role models in schools.

Mr. Grimsley's service to this community is especially near and dear to my heart as my

daughter, Jordan, was born with spina bifida. I understand firsthand the importance of providing our children with a normal life, and I am incredibly grateful for his service to such a meaningful cause. I also know his passion for mentoring youth and stepping in as a 'surrogate dad' has made an immeasurable impact on the lives of many young men in Georgia.

I want to congratulate Don Grimsley on receiving the John W. Jacobs Jr. Youth Service Award, and I want to thank him for his tremendous service to our community. Hall County is a better place because of Don Grimsley.

SARAH DAVIDSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sarah Davidson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sarah Davidson is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sarah Davidson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sarah Davidson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, my return flight to Washington, D.C. was delayed due to technical difficulties, and I was unable to attend the legislative session on April 1, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 137; yea on Roll Call No. 138; and nay on Roll Call No. 139.

HONORING LINDSAY RIGHTER

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lindsay Righter. Lindsay has been with my team since I first took office, and left earlier this year after six years of service as an exemplary field representative for my constituents in Humboldt County, Trinity County, and Del Norte County. As a valued member of my staff, Lindsay has been essential to my work in the northern part of my congressional district, and of special note, has