

Federal Government. However, in 1873, the Court began to develop modern incorporation doctrine principles. These principles were used to determine if amendments apply to the States through the due process clause of the 14th amendment.

The Court in *McDonald* is likely to use the modern incorporation doctrine, rather than simply uphold precedent from its previous second amendment cases.

The Supreme Court in *Duncan v. Louisiana* summarized the modern incorporation doctrine, stating, “the question has been asked whether a right is among those fundamental principles of liberty and justice which lie at the base of all our civil and political institutions . . . whether it is basic in our system of jurisprudence . . . and whether it is a fundamental right, essential to a fair trial.”

I believe the second amendment right to bear arms is a fundamental, constitutional right of law-abiding Americans. And, like most of the Bill of Rights, it must also be protected from unreasonable state restrictions.

Since the *Heller* decision, three appellate courts have addressed whether the second amendment applies to the States. Two of the courts, the Second and Seventh Circuits, followed Supreme Court precedent. They held that the second amendment only applies to the Federal Government. This was not because the judges were in favor of gun control—as many tried to state during Justice Sotomayor’s confirmation hearing. Instead, it was because they showed judicial restraint. They recognized that only the Supreme Court should overturn its own precedent. In the third case, the Ninth Circuit failed to follow Supreme Court precedent. Instead, it applied modern incorporation principles. It held that the second amendment is incorporated by the 14th amendment and protected against State infringement. Although I think the Ninth Circuit should have followed precedent, I agree with their analysis.

I would emphasize this: Even if the Court decides that the second amendment does not apply to the States, citizens do not need to worry that people are going to start taking away their firearms.

Forty-four State constitutions contain provisions addressing the right to bear arms. Most of these are much clearer than the Federal Constitution. They were adopted more recently and address specific issues such as concealed carry laws.

New Mexico’s Constitution states: No law shall abridge the right of the citizen to keep and bear arms for security and defense, for lawful hunting and recreational use and for other lawful purposes, but nothing herein shall be held to permit the carrying of concealed weapons. No municipality or county shall regulate, in any way, an incident of the right to keep and bear arms.

I am confident that our citizens’ right to bear arms will continue, re-

gardless of the *McDonald* decision. However, I believe that the Court will hold that the second amendment is incorporated by the 14th amendment.

When the Court asks whether the right to bear arms is “among those fundamental principles of liberty and justice which lie at the base of all our civil and political institutions . . . and is deeply rooted in this nation’s history and tradition,” I have no doubt in the conclusion they will reach.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING DAMARISCOTTA RIVER GRILL

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I honor a small restaurant in my home State of Maine that has taken a creative approach to bringing people together by hosting a number of community-oriented events. Located in the charming and quaint town of Damariscotta, the Damariscotta River Grill has become a well-known name in the midcoast Maine dining scene by providing diners with a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a good meal while meeting local artists.

The Damariscotta River Grill opened in late 2003 and has quickly become a recognized name throughout Maine’s burgeoning restaurant scene. Noted for its fresh and diverse menu, the Grill offers customers an eclectic mix of local seafood, meats, and produce. For lunch, the restaurant makes a wide array of sandwiches, and on Sundays the restaurant prepares a delectable brunch complete with an incredible number of options for landlubbers and seafood lovers alike.

The restaurant has quickly caught the attention of critics from far and wide, who all agree that the Damariscotta River Grill is not to be missed when visiting Midcoast Maine. Publications as divergent as the *Boston Herald*, *New York Times*, *Portland Press Herald*, and *Fodor’s* have praised the consistent and mouthwatering cuisine that chef-owner Rick Hirsch cooks up year round. Cape Cod Today went as far as to say that the restaurant offers “. . . as original and appealing a menu as any in New England”—a ringing endorsement given the number of superb establishments throughout the six-state region!

On March 30, Chef Rick Hirsch will be acknowledged for his hard work and dedication in producing such a high-caliber restaurant when he receives the Maine Restaurant Association’s 2010 Chef of the Year award at a ceremony in Portland. A graduate of the renowned Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island, Mr. Hirsch is extraordinarily deserving of this prestigious award, which recognizes Mr. Hirsch’s more than two decades of culinary experience as the owner of two restaurants in Maine—the Damariscotta River Grill, as well as the Anchor Inn Restaurant in Round Pond—and his Red Plate Catering business.

Additionally, since its inception, the Damariscotta River Grille has been an engaged participant in the local community. The Maine winner of the National Restaurant Association’s 2008 Restaurant Neighbor Award, the Damariscotta River Grill contributes regularly and generously to numerous regional organizations and initiatives, including the Boys and Girls Clubs’ wreath sale each year. The restaurant is also involved in the annual Chocolate Fest, which was just held last month, to support “Healthy Kids!,” a program that helps prevent child abuse and neglect in Lincoln County through educational outreach to families.

Beyond fundraisers for charities and other organizations, the Damariscotta River Grill hosts inventive gatherings to attract the restaurant’s loyal following. To highlight its Wine Spectator award-winning wine list, the restaurant’s Wine Club features at least six wine and food tastings with a wine expert, as well as door prizes and discounts on wine purchases. Additionally, the Grill’s “Art At the Grill” series, presently in its 5th year, shines a significant spotlight on area artists. The restaurant displays an artist’s work for a period of time, and hosts a reception, open to the public, where guests can speak with the artists about their work. In 2010, the restaurant plans to host over 15 artists, including painters, potters, photographers and fabric artists through this unique project.

The Damariscotta River Grill has become a favorite of locals and tourists alike because of its wide-ranging menu and unique character and charm. Chef Hirsch, along with his wife and business partner, Jean Kerrigan, has created something truly special in downtown Damariscotta. I congratulate Mr. Hirsch on his well-deserved award, and wish everyone at the Damariscotta River Grill a remarkable and successful year.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4573. An act to urge the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the United States Executive Directors at the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and other multilateral development institutions to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to cancel immediately and completely Haiti’s debts to such institutions, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 3433. An act to amend the North American Wetlands Conservation Act to establish requirements regarding payment of

the non-Federal share of the costs of wetlands conservation projects in Canada that are funded under that Act, and for other purposes.

At 11:51 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4621. An act to protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 249. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 45th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the role that it played in ensuring the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4621. An act to protect the integrity of the constitutionally mandated United States census and prohibit deceptive mail practices that attempt to exploit the decennial census; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 249. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 45th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the role that it played in ensuring the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Guam expressing strong and abiding opposition to any use of eminent domain [condemnation] for the purpose of obtaining Guam lands for either the currently planned military buildup or other U.S. federal government purposes, or both; to the Committee on Armed Services.

RESOLUTION No. 258-30 (COR)

Relative to expressing the strong and abiding opposition of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the People of Guam to any use of eminent domain [condemnation] for the purpose of obtaining Guam lands for either the currently planned military buildup or other U.S. federal government purposes, or both.

Be it Resolved by *I Mina'Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

Whereas, the island of Guam has only one hundred forty-seven thousand (147,000) acres of land available to it for all purposes; and

Whereas, the Department of Defense currently possesses forty thousand (40,000) acres, constituting 27.21 percent of the island's land mass; and

Whereas, the United States National Park Service currently possesses six hundred ninety-five (695) acres, or 0.47 percent of the island; and

Whereas, the United States Fish & Wildlife Service currently possesses three hundred

eighty-five (385) acres, or 0.26 percent of the island; and

Whereas, the Government of Guam currently possesses thirty-seven thousand six hundred seventy-three and thirty-six (37,673.36) acres, or 25.6 percent of the island; and

Whereas, the private lands of Guam consist of only sixty-eight thousand two hundred forty-six (68,246) acres, or 46.43 percent of the island; and

Whereas, the Federal Government, in its draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the military buildup, has stated it desires additional land for its buildup for a Proposed Training Range Complex, offering two (2) alternatives: Alternative A, identified as the preferred alternative, calls for acquiring by lease or condemnation nine hundred twenty-one (921) acres for this training range complex, which apparently is limited to public lands belonging to the Chamorro Land Trust Commission and the Ancestral Lands Commission, and Alternative B, east of Andy South, that calls for acquiring by long-term lease or condemnation one thousand one hundred twenty-nine (1,129) additional acres, some private and some public; and

Whereas, the DEIS also states that the military desires the former FAA Housing Area, comprising six hundred eighty (680) acres of Ancestral Lands, which would fill in a gap in the future Marine Corps base between NCTS Finegayan and South Finegayan; and

Whereas, the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) has declined to be clear regarding the possibility of eminent domain/condemnation being used as a tool to acquire the desired access to additional land in Guam, either directly or indirectly as a threat to back up "negotiations"; and

Whereas, the Joint Guam Program Office has stated that all options "are on the table" when it comes to additional land needed by the military, and that there is such a thing as "friendly condemnation"; and

Whereas, it appears that the Federal Government has no appreciation for the history of Federal land takings in Guam, or the importance of land to the people of Guam; and

Whereas, the history of land takings and the importance of land in the local culture of a tiny island have resulted in a significant sensitivity to Federal land takings on the part of the local people; and

Whereas, Chamorro historian, Reverend Joaquin Flores Sablan, wrote that land and family lineage continued to be the basis of wealth and prestige: "Land ownership was the greatest security, particularly inherited property which they treated as a sacred trust from their parents. To part with the land was the same as committing suicide." [Destiny's Landfall: A History of Guam, by Robert F. Rogers, University of Hawai'i Press, 1995, page 142]; and

Whereas, the Naval government, from 1898 until 1950, completely ignored the Chamorro people's devotion to the land, issuing their second order, on January 30, 1899, to confiscate land in the Piti area to use for a coal- ing site and Navy yard. The people of Guam were never compensated for that very first land taking, just the "first of a long series of controversial steps whereby United States governmental agencies acquired large portions of land on Guam" [Rogers, page 115]; and

Whereas, the Naval government held over one-third of the island of Guam on the eve of World War II, and within three (3) months of the liberation of the island in 1944, five (5) airfields were built; and

Whereas, by Public Law 594, the Land Acquisition Act passed by the U.S. Congress on August 2, 1946, the Navy Department was au-

thorized to acquire private land needed for permanent military installations on the island, but compensation was inadequate, due in part to a lack of proper land valuation in the largely agrarian island, amounting to only pennies on the dollar for the actual value of the land; and

Whereas, from 1947 to 1950, the main mission of Guam's military command was to complete building facilities, and for this purpose large pieces of land were taken; and

Whereas, the postwar land takings were mixed in time and process with limited and inadequate compensation for personal injury and death and property damage under the Federally-created Land and Claims Commission; and

Whereas, the United States federal government still has not appreciated the connection between compensation for the sufferings of the people of Guam at the hands of the Japanese occupiers and the takings of land; and

Whereas, the Land and Claims Commission condemned land, but became bogged down in the legal complexities of hundreds of property transactions. Rogers states [p. 215] that, "The commission was understaffed as well as inexperienced in real estate matters. Higher commands nonetheless pressured the staff to meet tight deadlines for land transfers in order for construction of new military projects to proceed"; and

Whereas, when former landowners or their heirs attempted to take these injustices to Federal court for redress of the situation, they were told that the statute of limitations had been exceeded; and

Whereas, without consultation with Guam officials or owners of leased properties, the new civilian governor, Carlton Skinner, signed a quitclaim deed on July 31, 1950, the day before the Organic Act went into effect, whereby the Government of Guam transferred all condemned property to the United States of America "for its own use." This left the Navy and Air Force in direct control of about forty-nine thousand six hundred (49,600) acres, or over thirty-six percent (36%) of the island; and

Whereas, the very first case in the new court under the Organic Act, which granted American citizenship to the Chamorros, was a retaking of all of the previous takings, to ensure that no claim could be made that land could not be taken from the Chamorros prior to their becoming American citizens; and

Whereas, in 1977, the creation of the new War in the Pacific Memorial Park saw the condemnation of coastal land in the Agat area, thus preventing the construction of the Agat Marina for many years; and

Whereas, in the 1980's, the U.S. Congress attempted to correct the obvious injustice of the postwar land takings by authorizing the land taking cases to be reopened and additional compensation be paid; and

Whereas, while many former landowners accepted the class action settlement under this law, some previous landowners of large holdings, such as those at Andersen Air Force Base and including the very land at NCTS envisioned by the federal government for the new Marine Corps base, opted out of the settlement and their claims against the federal government under that law have not been settled to this day; and

Whereas, the final insult to the people of Guam came when the three hundred eighty-five (385) acres of the former Naval Facility, Guam at Ritidian Point was declared excess in the 1990's and was grabbed quietly, without fanfare or advance notice, by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, rather than being returned to the original landowners via the Government of Guam; and

Whereas, a former Assistant U.S. Attorney handling land matters in Guam in 2000 and