

to Christianity. Fanatic relatives of Shaymaa el-Sayed, 26 years old, attacked her in Alexandria, beating her, attempting to shove her into a car and vowing to kill her for her "apostasy."

Police intervened. They arrested the victim herself. When they found her Christian identity papers, local police transferred her to a state security investigation office where the officials forcibly disrobed and photographed her naked in front of all the policemen at the station.

She was repeatedly subjected to interrogation and severe torture, including electrocution. She was released by the Egyptian police into the custody of her family despite their threats to kill her. "This is not legal treatment, but it is happening all the time," said Rasha Noor, an Egyptian human rights activist. "The Christians from Muslim backgrounds can't change their identities, so they are forced by the authorities to return back to Islam, or else."

God bless this young woman.

#### STRENGTHENING THE SUCCESSFUL SCHIP PROGRAM

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, as the House prepares to vote on the Child Health and Medicare Protection Act, known as the CHAMP Act, later today, I think it is important to refute some of the misleading talking points that Republicans are seizing on as they oppose this health insurance for millions of American children.

First, Republicans claim that by strengthening the State Children's Health Insurance Program, known as SCHIP, we are advancing "government doctors," advancing "government health plans."

This could be no further from the truth. Government does not deliver SCHIP services. Instead, it is private doctors and private health plans through private insurance. This program is operated successfully in my State of New Jersey and around the Nation.

Second, Republicans say that we are trying to expand the program to reach middle-income families. Again, that is false. We are not expanding the program. Today, 5 million children are eligible for SCHIP but are not enrolled. We are strengthening the program so that we can reach almost all of these children, the vast majority of whom come from low-income families.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

#### SUPPORT THE WELLNESS AND PREVENTION ACT OF 2007

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the

rising cost of health care in this country. While the nature of health care makes reaching consensus difficult, Congress must take action to make health care more affordable.

For this reason, I have introduced H.R. 853, the Wellness and Prevention Act of 2007. This legislation encourages the implementation of wellness and prevention plans in the workplace. The bill allows companies and employees to collect tax credits for wellness programs.

Statistics have proven that every dollar a business spends on a wellness program results in a \$3 return. Furthermore, Americans will take charge of their own health, thereby increasing productivity and reducing absenteeism.

I invite my colleagues to sponsor H.R. 853, because as the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Congress must now act to reduce the risk of disease, encourage a healthier America and help curb the rising cost of health care.

#### DEMOCRATS WANT TO ENSURE MILLIONS OF NEW CHILDREN RECEIVE THE HEALTH CARE THEY DESERVE

(Ms. HOOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, over the last 10 years, the Children's Health Insurance Program has been a success story, significantly reducing the number of children living without health insurance at a time when employer-sponsored insurance continues to erode.

When CHIP was created in 1997, the number of uninsured children under the age of 19 was 23 percent. Over the last decade, that has fallen to 15 percent. That is a great improvement, but still unacceptable.

That is why Democrats will bring the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act to the House floor today for a vote. The CHAMP Act invests in our children by ensuring that nearly every child eligible for the CHIP program is signed up and is receiving the essential preventative health care they need to live longer and healthier lives. If we do not take care of our children's health now, we will pay a lot more later on.

Madam Speaker, with the passage of the CHAMP Act later today, this House will move us significantly closer to ensuring that every child in America has access to health insurance.

#### TRAMPLING ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN AMERICA

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. America, your freedom of speech was trampled on yesterday. This new Democratic leadership quashed any semblance of free speech here on this House floor. This is not just a proce-

dural matter, mind you. This is a matter for all Americans.

You see, each Member of Congress represents 600,000 constituents. That is 600,000 American voices that were quashed yesterday. As I say, this is not just a Republican issue, for their voices were quashed, but so were Democrat and Independent voices as well.

But in fact, this is nothing new for the new Democrat leadership. Just a week ago we had to come to this floor to make sure we could fight to keep the radio waves and the media opening dealing with the Fairness Doctrine. Prior to this, we had to fight to make sure that the centuries-old tradition of bipartisanship would not be broken. Prior to that, we had to fight to make sure that there would be transparency in earmarks, and all the Republicans fought on the side of openness and freedom of speech.

The Democrats say they tolerate all diversity, but apparently diversity not of thought and speech.

#### DEMOCRATS WANT TO STRENGTHEN THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH IN- SURANCE PROGRAM

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, at a time when there are serious problems in our health care system, the Children's Health Insurance Program, otherwise known as CHIP, has a proven track record. Over the last decade, as the number of uninsured Americans has increased, the number of children living without health insurance has actually decreased, and thanks to the CHIP program, we have experienced a 60-percent drop in the number of uninsured children.

This week, the House plans to reauthorize the CHIP program. Congress must act on this legislation now. In the past, CHIP has received strong bipartisan support. However, in an about-face, the President and some Republicans have abandoned their support of CHIP on supposed philosophical grounds.

If Congress refuses to act this week, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that nearly 1 million children will lose their health coverage. Democrats are simply not to get that to happen. We are going to pass the CHIP reauthorization today so that 11 million children have access to the health insurance they need to live healthy lives.

#### MISSION LEAP TOWARDS SOCIALIZED MEDICINE

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, today the United States Congress will take up the full march towards socialized medicine here in the United States. This isn't mission creep, Madam Speaker; this is mission leap.

Imagine, under the Democrat plan, someone who is old enough to be able to run for the United States Congress would be considered a child and eligible for taxpayer-subsidized health care.

This is socialized medicine in its truest form. As a matter of fact, in Minnesota today, under the SCHIP proposal, fully 85 percent of all recipients are adults. Under the Democrat proposal in Minnesota, over 20,000 senior citizens in Minnesota will lose their Medicare Advantage.

Madam Speaker, this is mission leap towards embracing full socialized medicine, and I hope this United States Congress rejects this untimely proposal.

#### ADDRESSING CRITICAL HEALTHCARE NEEDS

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I listened with a somewhat incredulous nature here to my colleague from Minnesota repeating the litany from our Republican friends that somehow this is a leap into socialism and represents a dramatic change.

Well, first of all, Madam Speaker, it ought to be clear that there are some States where there have been eligibility limits that have been increased. But why? Because Governors, including many of them Republican Governors, have requested waivers. Who gives the waivers? They have been granted by the Bush administration. If you think it is wrong to expand health care for more children, for some with slightly higher income levels, then stop granting the waivers.

This isn't a problem that somehow Democrats are leaping into socialized medicine. This is an effort at the State and local level to meet these critical problems. That is why the legislation today is going to pass with overwhelmingly partisan support.

□ 1030

#### DEMOCRATS ATTEMPT TO NATIONALIZE HEALTH CARE

(Mr. TERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I think most of us as Republicans want to be able to provide health care access to low-income uninsured children, but that is not the issue or the bill that comes to the floor today. As we have heard from many of the speakers, it is to cover all children despite income levels and despite whether or not they are currently enrolled in a health insurance plan.

In fact, one of the Republican amendments that was denied in the Rules Committee and we cannot bring to the floor today is a measure that would say if you are currently enrolled in health

insurance, you are not eligible to participate in SCHIP. That is denied, and that is just one piece of evidence that we are going to bring out today showing that this is an attack on private health insurance coverage and the attempt to nationalize health care.

#### IN SUPPORT OF THE CHAMP ACT

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I rise in strong support of SCHIP or the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act, CHAMP. There are 45 million uninsured, and 6 million are children. These are children that are being impacted.

We talk about having productive children in our school systems, improving the quality of life. You can't do it without a clean bill of health. We have the responsibility for our children. More than 70 percent of uninsured Hispanic children eligible for public coverage are not enrolled. This is unacceptable.

The CHAMP Act takes significant steps in reducing the barriers for all children and seniors of color in our community. Unfortunately, some of the Members are using this legislation as an opportunity to debate unrelated health care, specifically, immigration policies and other issues.

We need to make sure that we support the CHAMP act. A vote for CHAMP will help more citizen children get access to health coverage which can be a difference between life and death.

#### SCHIP

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak against this extremely flawed SCHIP bill. I support the original intent of SCHIP, which is to cover our moderate- to low-income children at 200 percent of the poverty level. Yet the bill before us today goes much further. It does expand the program, and it does move it from a block grant to an entitlement, and it moves patients towards a universal, government-run health care that shifts patients from private care to a massive government entitlement program.

And I know what runaway health care costs in a broken system look like. As a former member of the Tennessee Senate, I watched TennCare, Tennessee's statewide Medicaid-managed care service, which was granted under one of those waivers, I have watched this thing invoke stress, pain and hardship on both health care providers and consumers. It does not work. Someone always has to pay the bill.

Over 10 years, also, this CHAMP bill would make \$193 billion worth of cuts from Medicare services for our seniors. It didn't work. It is not going to work here.

#### IMPOSING A HIDDEN TAX ON HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, here's the bill. Here is the health care bill folks have been talking about. Do you know what's in it? Most Members don't.

Under the guise of children's health, there is a hidden tax on every single private health insurance policy in the Nation. Every one. Why? Because the desire of those on the left to gradually move every American to Washington-controlled bureaucratic health care is so strong they will stop at nothing.

Their desire is to end the ability of patients and their doctors to make independent choices and decisions. As a physician, I know how detrimental the government can be to quality health care.

In addition, this bill will end the choices and freedoms that 8 million seniors currently have on Medicare Advantage, cutting Medicare to 8 million seniors.

Now, the left will pass this bill today because they can under a gag rule. That doesn't make the process or the policy correct. This is not what the American people want nor what they deserve, and they are watching.

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to adjourn will be followed by a 5-minute vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 177, nays 231, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 779]

YEAS—177

Abercrombie	Barton (TX)	Bono
Aderholt	Biggert	Boustany
Akin	Bilbray	Brady (TX)
Alexander	Bilirakis	Brown (GA)
Bachmann	Bishop (UT)	Brown (SC)
Bachus	Blackburn	Brown-Waite,
Baker	Blunt	Ginny
Barrett (SC)	Boehner	Buchanan
Bartlett (MD)	Bonner	Burgess