

and choices in their health care policies, in their Medicare policies.

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I object to the letter being introduced.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, we are not going to divide this country over health care. We are going to bring them together and fight for better health care for our children and our seniors and everyone.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas, the distinguished member of the Health Subcommittee on the Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. DOGGETT.

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, of course, that letter is one of many endorsements of groups coming together because they know that today they are improving health care for our oldest Americans and our youngest Americans.

Unfortunately, my home State of Texas has the distinction of being number one in children with no health insurance, largely due to the indifference of then Governor George Bush who responded too late and too little. His indifference to the health crisis now is hardly surprising given his indifference then.

The Republican prescription drug plan, the largest entitlement increase in recent history, is a study in how to let Medicare “wither on the vine” at the time they inject waste, fraud and abuse into the system.

Now Republicans are using every available obstructionist tactic to block our reforms, to curb their own excesses, such as their lavishing billions on big insurance companies. Despite their professed interest in controlling entitlement spending, only two of their 21 committee amendments would have reduced spending and the vast majority would have increased spending on borrowed money.

Their sermons about Medicare insolvency are betrayed by their insistence on undermining it, and their silly claims of “socialized medicine” are belied by the bill’s endorsement by the American Medical Association and the AARP.

Approve this rule and afford seniors and children the health care that Republican obstructionism would deny them.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1¾ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that 10 minutes be added to debate equally divided between both the majority and the minority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

Ms. CASTOR. I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. SESSIONS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BUYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. SESSIONS. Welcome to the new Democrat-run House of Representatives: No debate added time. No regular order hearings. Closed rules. Welcome.

Mr. BUYER. It is disappointing that the objection was so loud and clear.

I do remember coming here in the minority, and at the time it was referred to as the Imperial Congress. It has not taken you very long to get back to where you were. That is disappointing. When I look at what is happening, you have the votes, you have the majority.

When I think about what just happened to the Commerce Committee, I have such great respect for JOHN DINGELL.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is reminded to address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I have great respect for JOHN DINGELL and how awkward he must feel that the leadership of this Congress took jurisdiction from his committee. Now, this is the same man that has respected the rules of process and procedure that has taught many of us in this House.

I think about the intolerance right now that the majority has of other people’s views and opinions. That is very, very disheartening; and the American people should know and recognize what is happening here is wrong.

I just appeal to you once again, you have the votes. Do not turn Congress into an undemocratic institution. Think about when you were in the minority. There were times yet you didn’t like what happened, but you had your opportunity to be heard. Yes, you may have lost an amendment or been voted down here or there. It is part of the democratic process.

Do not shut down the democratic process. That’s what you have done on this bill. We should be reauthorizing the SCHIP program for children. Republicans created this bill. Let’s do a clean bill. That’s what we should be doing here on the floor.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are once again reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

(Mr. FOSSELLA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSSELLA. Let me thank the gentleman for yielding as we continue the debate on ensuring children’s health care.

Madam Speaker, let me bring up another point, and that is something that has been debated. Despite all the things we talk about here, there is nothing more important than protecting this country. Regrettably, I lost more people in Staten Island in Brooklyn than any other district in this country on 9/11. We should be

doing everything possible to ensure that our intelligence community is preventing terrorist attacks. Right now, Congress, I believe, is abdicating its responsibility. That’s why I urge my colleagues to defeat the rule and urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question on the rule.

If the previous question is defeated, we will immediately bring legislation to the floor to solve an intelligence gap. Very simply this, the American people need to know, if there is a foreigner on foreign soil, if there is an area in Afghanistan where the intelligence community knows for a fact that there are terrorists plotting attacks to kill Americans, right now, without a court order, we can’t listen to those conversations. That’s irresponsible.

If we want to help and protect the American people to the best of our ability, we will allow our intelligence community to listen to foreigners on foreign soils whose sole objective is to kill more Americans and our allies without a court order or obtaining a warrant.

If we have another attack, God forbid, I would like to see Members in this body rush to the floor and explain why they wouldn’t allow our intelligence community to listen to foreigners on foreign soil who want to only do one thing, kill us.

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, it’s my understanding the gentlewoman from Florida is indicating she has no additional speakers and that she would choose to close?

Ms. CASTOR. That is correct, Madam Speaker. I will reserve until Mr. SESSIONS closes.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. SESSIONS. 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 noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair advises the House that the Chair intends to adhere to strict timelines when closing the first vote in subsequent vote series. The cooperation of all Members is appreciated.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 172, nays 246, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 783]

YEAS—172

Aderholt	Barton (TX)	Bonner
Akin	Biggert	Bono
Alexander	Bilbray	Boozman
Bachmann	Bilirakis	Boustany
Bachus	Bishop (UT)	Brady (TX)
Baker	Blackburn	Broun (GA)
Barrett (SC)	Blunt	Brown (SC)
Bartlett (MD)	Boehner	Buchanan

Burton (IN)	Hayes	Petri	Maloney (NY)	Peterson (MN)	Snyder
Buyer	Heller	Pickering	Markey	Platts	Solis
Calvert	Hensarling	Pitts	Marshall	Pomeroy	Space
Camp (MI)	Herger	Poe	Matheson	Porter	Stark
Campbell (CA)	Hobson	Price (GA)	Matsui	Price (NC)	Stupak
Cannon	Hoekstra	Pryce (OH)	McCarthy (NY)	Rahall	Sutton
Cantor	Hulshof	Putnam	McCollum (MN)	Ramstad	Tanner
Capito	Hunter	Radanovich	McDermott	Rangel	Tauscher
Carter	Inglis (SC)	Regula	McGovern	Reyes	Taylor
Castle	Issa	Rehberg	McIntyre	Rodriguez	Thompson (CA)
Chabot	Johnson (IL)	Reichert	McNerney	Rohrabacher	Thompson (MS)
Coble	Jordan	Renzi	McNulty	Ross	
Cole (OK)	Keller	Reynolds	Meek (FL)	Rothman	Tierney
Conaway	King (IA)	Rogers (AL)	Meeks (NY)	Royal-Ballard	Towns
Crenshaw	Kline (MN)	Rogers (MI)	Melancon	Ruppersberger	Udall (CO)
Cubin	Knollenberg	Ros-Lehtinen	Michaud	Rush	Udall (NM)
Culberson	Lamborn	Roskam	Miller (NC)	Ryan (OH)	Van Hollen
Davis (KY)	Latham	Royce	Mitchell	Salazar	Velázquez
Davis, David	LaTourette	Ryan (WI)	Mollohan	Sánchez, Linda	Visclosky
Davis, Tom	Lewis (CA)	Sali	Moore (KS)	T.	Walberg
Deal (GA)	Lewis (KY)	Schmidt	Moore (WI)	Sanchez, Loretta	Walsh (NY)
Dent	Linder	Sensenbrenner	Napolitano	Moran (KS)	Barbanes
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Sessions	Moran (VA)	Saxton	Walz (MN)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Shadegg	Murphy (CT)	Schakowsky	Wasserman
Doolittle	E.	Shays	Murphy, Patrick	Schultz	
Drake	Mack	Shimkus	Murtha	Schwartz	Waters
Dreier	Manzullo	Shuster	Nadler	Watson	Watson
Duncan	Marchant	Simpson	Napolitano	Scott (GA)	Watt
Ehlers	McCarthy (CA)	Smith (NE)	Smith (TX)	Scott (VA)	Weiner
Emerson	McCaull (TX)	Smith (TX)	Neal (MA)	Serrano	Welch (VT)
English (PA)	McCotter	Souder	Oberstar	Sestak	Weller
Everett	McCrary	Stearns	Obey	Shea-Porter	Wexler
Fallin	McHenry	Sullivan	Oliver	Sherman	Wilson (OH)
Feeney	McHugh	Terry	Ortiz	Shuler	Woolsey
Flake	McKeon	Thornberry	Pallone	Sires	Wu
Fortenberry	McMorris	Tiahrt	Pastor	Skelton	Smith (NJ)
Foxx	Rodgers	Tiberi	Payne	Payne	Wynn
Franks (AZ)	Mica	Turner	Perlmuter	Smith (WA)	Yarmuth
Frelinghuysen	Miller (FL)	Upton			
Gallegly	Miller (MI)	Walden (OR)			
Garrett (NJ)	Miller, Gary	Wamp			
Gerlach	Murphy, Tim	Weldon (FL)			
Gilchrest	Musgrave	Westmoreland			
Gingrey	Myrick	Whitfield			
Gohmert	Neugebauer	Wicker			
Goodlatte	Nunes	Wilson (NM)			
Granger	Paul	Wilson (SC)			
Graves	Pearce	Wolf			
Hastert	Pence	Young (AK)			
Hastings (WA)	Peterson (PA)	Young (FL)			

NAYS—246

Abercrombie	Crowley	Hinojosa
Ackerman	Cuellar	Hirono
Allen	Cummings	Hodes
Altmore	Davis (AL)	Holden
Andrews	Davis (CA)	Holt
Arcuri	Davis (IL)	Hooley
Baca	Davis, Lincoln	Hoyer
Baird	DeFazio	Inslee
Baldwin	DeGette	Israel
Barrow	Delahunt	Jackson (IL)
Bean	DeLauro	Jackson-Lee
Berkley	Dicks	(TX)
Berman	Dingell	Jefferson
Berry	Doggett	Jindal
Bishop (GA)	Donnelly	Johnson (GA)
Bishop (NY)	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Blumenauer	Edwards	Jones (NC)
Boren	Ellison	Jones (OH)
Boswell	Ellsworth	Kagen
Boucher	Emanuel	Kanjorski
Boyd (FL)	Engel	Kaptur
Boysd (KS)	Eshoo	Kennedy
Brady (PA)	Etheridge	Kildee
Braley (IA)	Farr	Kilpatrick
Brown, Corrine	Fattah	Kind
Brown-Waite, Ginny	Ferguson	King (NY)
Burgess	Filner	Kingston
Butterfield	Forbes	Kirk
Capps	Fossella	Klein (FL)
Capuano	Frank (MA)	Kucinich
Cardoza	Giffords	Kuhl (NY)
Carnahan	Gillibrand	LaHood
Carney	Gillmor	Lampson
Carson	Gonzalez	Langevin
Castor	Gordon	Lantos
Chandler	Green, Al	Larsen (WA)
Clay	Green, Gene	Larson (CT)
Cleaver	Grijalva	Lee
Clyburn	Hall (NY)	Levin
Cohen	Hall (TX)	Lewis (GA)
Conyers	Hare	Lipinski
Cooper	Harman	LoBiondo
Costa	Hastings (FL)	Loebsack
Costello	Herseth Sandlin	Lofgren, Zoe
Courtney	Higgins	Lowey
Cramer	Hill	Lynch
	Hinchey	Mahoney (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Becerra	Honda	Slaughter
Clarke	Johnson, Sam	Spratt
Davis, Jo Ann	Miller, George	Tancredo
Goode	Pascarella	Waxman
Gutierrez	Rogers (KY)	

□ 1335

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3162, CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the amendment, which I will offer to the rule if the previous question is defeated, and extraneous material be printed just prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the ranking member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA).

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I think we all know the context of the world that we live in today. America is under heightened threat.

We also know that, if we go back to May 21, the Director of National Intelligence has said our intelligence agencies must obtain a court order to monitor the communications of foreigners suspected of terrorist activity who are physically located in foreign countries. Foreign intelligence, foreign terrorists in foreign countries, and we need to get a court order.

The end result is we have significant gaps in gathering the information that we need to keep America safe. That is why we need to vote against this previous question, and why we need to do an update of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act today.

But in light of these threats and this context, what has been the response? What's been the response of this Congress and the other side?

Only a couple of weeks ago, we decided that we would give al Qaeda more information about our Intelligence Community. We decided that Congress would mandate that we declassify the top line. In the intelligence authorization bill that we did earlier this year, we said we want a national intelligence estimate, not on al Qaeda, not on Iran, not on Syria, not on North Korea, but we want it on global climate change. We gutted some of our key funding for intelligence operations, and we have done absolutely nothing on updating FISA, even though we are under heightened threat and we are talking about foreign targets, foreign intelligence from individuals who are located overseas.

We need to update FISA, and we need to do it before we go home. Weakening our national security and weakening our intelligence effort in these times is the wrong thing to do.

We used to talk about our inability to connect the dots. What we now have is a majority that is unwilling and unable to give our Intelligence Community even the capabilities to go out and connect the dots that keep us safe.

Make no doubt about it. We are weakening our intelligence. We are making this country more vulnerable, and we need to act, and we need to act before we go on recess.

Mr. NADLER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOEKSTRA. No, I will not yield. And I know that this colleague has been very sympathetic to making us and fixing this problem, and I appreciate his efforts in this area.

But if we go back to knowing that we have had this information for more than 6 months, we have not dealt with this information. Go back to the "op ed" that the Director of National Intelligence wrote in May. And this bill that we are dealing with today concerns children. But, as the DNI has said, this surveillance saves lives, the lives of our children and grandchildren. That is what we are talking about.

What do we do to keep the homeland safe? What do we do to keep our troops safe? Because we are talking about gathering intelligence from foreign targets in places like Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iraq.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent for 2 additional minutes for the gentleman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?