

know that there will be a tomorrow. I'm not going anywhere. And I will continue to fight until the Marine Corps gets the acknowledgment it deserves.

In closing, I want to thank the many House Members who have supported this legislation for 8 years, and I want to close by asking God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I want to ask God to bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I want to ask God in his loving arms to hold the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan. And I close by three times and most sincerely asking God: God please, God please, God please continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICA WANTS HEALTH REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I have words for both Democrats and Republicans tonight. Let's start with the Democrats. We, as a party, have spent the last 6 months, the greatest minds of our party, dwelling on the question, the unbelievably consuming question, of how to get OLYMPIA SNOWE to vote for health care reform.

I want to remind us all, OLYMPIA SNOWE was not elected President last year. OLYMPIA SNOWE has no veto power in the Senate. OLYMPIA SNOWE represents a State with one-half of 1 percent of America's population.

What America wants is health care reform. America doesn't care if it gets 51 votes in the Senate or 60 votes in the Senate or 83 votes in the Senate. In fact, America doesn't even care about that. It doesn't care about that at all.

What America cares about is this: There are over 1 million Americans who go broke every single year trying to pay their health care bills. America cares a lot about that.

America cares about the fact that there are 44,780 Americans who die every single year on account of not having health care. That's 11 every day. America sure cares a lot about that.

America cares about the fact that if you have a preexisting condition, even if you have health insurance, it's not covered. America cares about that a lot.

America cares about the fact that you can get all the health care you need as long as you don't need any. America cares about that a lot.

But America does not care about procedures, processes, personalities.

America doesn't care about that at all. So we have to remember that as Democrats. We have to remember what's at stake here is life and death, enormous amounts of money, and people are counting upon us to move ahead.

America understands what's good for America. America cares about health care. America cares about jobs. America cares about education and energy independence. America does not care about process or politicians, or personalities, or anything like that.

And I have a few words for my Republican friends tonight as well. I guess I do have some Republican friends.

Let me say this. Last week, I held up this report here and I pointed out that in America there's 44,789 Americans who die every year, according to this Harvard report published in a peer review journal, because they have no health insurance. That's an extra 44,789 Americans who die, whose lives could be saved, and their response was to ask me for an apology. To ask me for an apology. That's right, to ask me for an apology.

Well, I'm telling you this. I will not apologize. I will not apologize. I will not apologize for a simple reason. America doesn't care about your feelings. I violated no rules by bringing this report to America's attention. I think a lot of people didn't know about it beforehand.

But America does care about health care in America. And if you're against it, then get out of the way, just get out of the way. You can lead, you can follow, or you can get out of the way. And I'm telling you now to get out of the way.

America understands that there's one party in this country that's in favor of health care reform and one party that's against it, and they know why. They understand that if Barack Obama were somehow able to cure hunger in the world, the Republicans would blame him for overpopulation. They understand that if Barack Obama could somehow bring about world peace, they'd blame him for destroying the defense industry. In fact, they understand that if Barack Obama has a BLT sandwich tomorrow for lunch, they will try to ban bacon.

But that's not what America wants. America wants solutions to its problems, and that begins with health care, and that's what I'm speaking for tonight.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NASA TECHNOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POSEY. As we face the risk of ceding our leadership in space to Russia, China, and other countries, I want to take a moment to review many of the benefits of space exploration that everyone enjoys, even though many of them may take it for granted.

The typical American home contains dozens and dozens of inventions from America's investment in space. That flat-screen TV was developed from NASA technology. The furniture or drapes that are fire-resistant material, that may be attributed to NASA's fire safety research. If your home security system uses a push-button panel and intrusion detectors in the windows, you benefited from space exploration.

If your home is equipped with carbon monoxide sensors and fire detectors, then you've benefited from America's space program. If you enjoy using scratch-resistant lenses in your glasses, then—you've guessed it—you've benefited from the space program.

Chances are you enjoy using batteries, cell phones, laptops, calculators, even Velcro. If so, you've benefited from our space exploration. If you appreciate the clean, crisp water in your glass, you may be interested to know that every home water filter came about thanks to America's space program.

That cooler used on a trip to the beach, a picnic, or a camping trip relies on space-based technology to keep your food and drinks cool. Solar technology used to power your hot water heaters and other home appliances owe their existence to America's space exploration. And if you're keeping an eye on time by looking at your quartz-based watch, you will want to credit the space program for that, too.

If you plan on enjoying some golf or other sports this weekend, remember that our space program gave rise to the plastics and the graphites used most commonly in sports and safety equipment.

These are but a few of the many contributions that have arisen from our Nation's space program. If we want to keep America strong economically and maintain the military high ground, we must not cede our leadership in space to our competitors.

As most of us know, the President promised that he would close the gap between our space shuttle program and our constellation program. We all need to be committed to helping the President of the United States keep his word.

He also promised that he would see that America remained first in space. And we must also do our level best to help the President keep that promise, too.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GOHMERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AFGHANISTAN: IN TO WIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, right now, people are fighting and dying for a free Afghanistan. They deserve an answer to the crux of the matter: Are we in to win? I believe we must be.

My answer stems from a broad strategic vision focused by three fundamental principles: One, America's security is from strength, not surrender; two, our greatest strength rests in expanding liberty to the oppressed to ensure freedom for ourselves; and three, we are targets of tyrants and terrorists not because of our actions but because of our existence.

Helping the Afghans free themselves from the Taliban's tyranny and al Qaeda's terrorism is a moral good unto itself. To retreat from or compromise this noble goal in the cause of human freedom will not only be a betrayal of the Afghans, it will endanger our own birth right as a free people.

Our allies, our rivals, and especially our enemies will witness our lack of conviction; and, by so dishonoring ourselves, we will squander our allies' trust, lose our rivals' respect, and incur our enemy's emboldened depravities.

Our primary nation-state enemy, Iran, imperviously continues its pursuit of nuclear weapons and the means to wield them. A defeat in Afghanistan will condemn generations yet born to the capricious terrorism of an Iranian regime protected by a nuclear umbrella. Alternately, victory in Afghanistan will further Iran's necessary containment by democracies opposed to terrorism.

Unable to expand its sway, Iran's ability to coax our rivals into opposing sanctions and, worse, aiding its nuclear pursuits, will ebb and end; and, within its own borders, the regime will falter and, like the Soviet Union, ultimately implode between the weight of its own oppressed people's aspirations for freedom.

Regarding Afghanistan particularly, General Stanley McChrystal has affirmed victory remains within reach. What form will it take? My view is the richly diversified people of Afghanistan desire a decentralized democracy that is opposed to terrorism and is engaged with their neighbors and allies.

To this end, America, NATO, and the U.N. must renounce the recent fraudulent election and schedule a scrupulously monitored, honest election. This is essential to reassuring the Afghans that their nascent representative government and the coalition's intentions in their homeland are legitimate and benevolent.

As this process proceeds at pace, we must make clear the new democracy's governing principle is local control. Every Nation, especially one as tribal as Afghanistan, has traditional roots of order springing from and connecting the individual and family to the local community and larger country. Without an enduring history of or trust in a centralized, bureaucratized rule from Kabul, only an explicit, enduring commitment to local control will soothe the Afghans' resistance to their federal government's existence. Moreover, local control also intermeshes with coalition forces' counterinsurgency operation.

Emulating General David Petraeus' brilliant counterinsurgency strategy in Iraq, coalition forces must be increased to provide the force necessary to defeat the enemy's violence and intimidation of Afghans. As the security situation is stabilized, coalition forces and steadily increasing Afghan national police and army personnel must live amongst the people to facilitate sustainable local economic developments and democratic institutions. In sum, the coalition will separate Afghans from the enemy by concretely proving the moral and practical superiority of locally rooted democracy over nihilistic terrorism and tyranny.

Importantly, reconstruction efforts must not be limited to Afghanistan. With the enemy infesting western tribal regions of Pakistan, the coalition must also engage with that nation's people and government in "preemptive reconstruction." Rolling blackouts, food shortages, and other persistent problems affecting Pakistanis must be ameliorated at the national and, critically, the local levels. This will stop Pakistanis from viewing themselves as unwilling conscripts into a "proxy army" being used by the coalition; it will stabilize Pakistan's Government; it will demonstrate the coalition's commitment to the well-being of Pakistani citizens; and will empower the Pakistani army to more actively and effectively coordinate with coalition forces to eradicate the enemy's safe havens in their Nation—safe havens which, I note, constitute an existential threat to democracy in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Surrounded by free Afghans and coalition forces, the enemy will be uprooted from its havens with nowhere to hide and will be crushed.

This is the synopsis of the broader strategic context and immediate recommendations of those who support victory in Afghanistan. May we all ever remember America's greatest security as liberty, and let us pray the Obama administration supports Gen-

eral McChrystal's plan for victory so that we and future generations in this world never confront the prospect of a wider war and endless threat from abandoning Afghanistan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE MACKAY FAMILY: PART III

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I think I do tonight the end of what is a trilogy. I have been here on three nights talking about a family in my community. Two nights ago, I introduced this body to the Mackay family; a doctor, respected, board-certified orthopedic surgeon of 30 years in the community, who has been alleged by the Drug Enforcement Administration of having given improper prescriptions to his patients.

Last night, I explained what happened to this family, as 20 members, armed, in uniform, came in and held him at bay for 4 hours as they searched his home and office and took all his records, his books, his car, his truck, all his cash, his savings, and even his retirement account.

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I told how his family had nothing and lived on their food storage for a while until 5 months later they finally went to court and had some of their property returned. But the Federal Government still has the truck and all his books, as well as his savings and checking account, and has yet to make a charge or arrest this individual. It is now 15 months later.

Today I finish the story. The Drug Enforcement Agency did offer a deal to this good doctor saying they would drop everything and it would all go away if he would simply surrender his license to practice medicine. Thinking he has done nothing wrong, he refused that offer. In March, the DEA started the procedures to remove his license from him.

The administrative law judge, a judge of the executive branch, hired by and working for the Drug Enforcement Agency to make quasi-judicial decisions on the actions of that agency, decided to hold a hearing on his license and insisted that everyone had to come from Utah back here to Washington, D.C. A local court said that was silly and ordered the hearing to take place in Utah. The judge, somewhat piqued at that, should have, to make sure there was no element of antagonism or question about it, recused himself as he was requested. Nonetheless, he did preside over that hearing.