

served with him, know that you have our deepest condolences, the gratitude of the people of Indiana, and you shall remain in the hearts of a grateful Nation forever.

OBSTRUCTING HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, let me tell an old story relevant to our current health care debate.

One day, a frog was hopping by a river when he came upon a scorpion. The scorpion asked if the frog would carry him across. The frog said, No, you will sting me. The scorpion replied, No, if I stung you, we would both drown. What is the point of that?

So the frog put the scorpion on his back and waded into the river. Halfway across, he felt a sudden sting and his body went numb. Scorpion, why did you do that? Now we will both die. Said the scorpion, It is my nature.

Today, the health insurance industry refuses to cover basic maternity care for four out of five women, while charging them higher premiums. It kicks women out of hospitals within hours of a mastectomy. No industry in history that profits from a broken system has ever moved to reform that system.

After faking support for health care reform for months, why did the health insurance industry on Monday suddenly try to sting us with a flawed and incomplete cost analysis of a health care plan? The same reason they fight to prevent competition through a strong public option, and the same reason many of my Republican colleagues have done nothing but obstruct reform. It is their nature.

SUPPORT THE AMTRAK SECURE TRANSPORTATION OF FIREARMS ACT

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

Mr. REHBERG. There aren't many things that are more important to the foundation of the West than trains and guns. In Montana, both still have a profound impact on our frontier identity. But these pillars of Western culture find themselves on opposite sides of the fence because of Amtrak's ban on the transportation of legal firearms on its trains.

The Second Amendment doesn't derail the right to bear arms if you happen to be on a train. We allow the transportation of firearms in cars and on commercial airlines, but Amtrak's ban on firearms remains in effect, even as it continues to receive massive Federal subsidies.

The Amtrak Secure Transportation of Firearms Act would force Amtrak to end its ban on firearms once and for all. I hope my colleagues will join me

in sponsoring this important legislation, because the Second Amendment protects you whether you travel by horse, plane, truck or train.

SENIORS AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support health care reform for our seniors. Our senior citizens deserve reform that will lower their medical expenses and provide the highest quality care available. Our health care reform legislation closes the prescription drug doughnut hole which forces seniors to reduce their prescription drug use, that is, not use lifesaving medications, by an average of 14 percent.

The House's health care reform legislation will help guarantee our seniors access to their doctors by eliminating the 21 percent pay cut doctors are facing for Medicare reimbursements. Without this health care reform, 40 percent of our doctors say they will have to reduce the number of Medicare patients they see. Our seniors deserve better than that. They deserve reform that will keep them in good health at a manageable cost.

I urge my colleagues to support quality health care reform for our Nation's seniors.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in women between age 40 and 59. We have all been touched by it with family or friends.

In my home State of Florida, an estimated 12,000 new cases of breast cancer in women will be diagnosed this year. However, if detected early enough, it can be successful in treating the disease.

To this end, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of the EARLY Act, a bill introduced by my fellow Florida colleague, Debbie Wasserman Schultz. She has been a leader. She has got a courageous story that she shares with many. This act, her bill, is an education campaign, it is a public awareness campaign, and it will have a huge difference on women in the future. So I really respect her leadership on this.

In my congressional district, I am proud to say, I thank the leadership. We have been active, our employees and our businesses, over the last 10 years. Working together, it makes a big difference. I would like to just say, we need to continue to educate our families and friends on this bill.

IN MEMORIAM OF U.S. ARMY SERGEANT JOSHUA KIRK

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant Joshua Kirk. Sergeant Kirk was tragically killed in Afghanistan on October 3.

On Tuesday morning, I attended his funeral at St. Michael's Church in Exeter, New Hampshire. There were so many relatives and friends in attendance for a somber and moving ceremony. His wife, Megan, a native of Exeter, and his daughter, Kensington, have lost a husband and father, and this Nation has lost a hero.

Sergeant Kirk selflessly put himself in harm's way in service to America. He and his family are owed a debt of gratitude.

Sergeant Kirk, a native of Maine, joined the United States Army in 2005. He was on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan when his base was attacked by insurgents on October 3. Kirk and seven of his courageous fellow soldiers, all based out of Fort Carson, were killed during the long battle.

Sergeant Kirk's memory lives on with his wife, daughter, mother and sisters. We will always remember his sacrifice, and theirs, and we are forever grateful for their patriotism and service to America.

AMNESTY ENCOURAGES ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, two recent surveys, one of Mexicans and one of Americans, addresses policies that encourage illegal immigration. The first, from Rasmussen, reveals that 56 percent of U.S. voters surveyed believe the policies of the Federal Government encourage people to enter the United States illegally. Also, 64 percent believe law enforcement officers should conduct surprise visits at locations where illegal immigrants seek employment.

The second, from Zogby, reveals that 56 percent of people in Mexico think granting legal status to illegal immigrants in the United States would encourage more illegal immigration to America. Of Mexicans with a member of their immediate household in the United States, two-thirds—two-thirds—said a legalization program would make people they know more likely to go to America illegally.

Madam Speaker, these are more reasons to oppose amnesty for those in the country illegally.

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, Speaker PELOSI announced an important new addition to the health insurance reform package. Young adults will be able to remain on their parents' health insurance plans until their 27th birthday.

Young adults make up one-third of the entire uninsured population, numbering 13.7 million. Only 53 percent of young adults are even eligible for employer-based insurance, and 51 percent do not have health coverage through their jobs.

Young adults have the highest rate of injury-related emergency department visits and 15 percent have a chronic health condition. Half are overweight or obese, 9 percent have been diagnosed with depression or a related condition, and the highest prevalence of human papilloma virus, which has been linked to cervical cancer, is among women age 20-24. Young adults experience six preventable deaths each day due to lack of health insurance.

This is clearly an age group that needs health insurance. But young adults are among those least likely to have access to coverage. Allowing them to remain as a dependent on their parents' health insurance plans will bring quality health insurance within reach for millions of young adults.

THE SCORE: AMERICAN FLAG 1— FLAG POLICE 0

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Oak Parks Apartments in Albany, Oregon, this week decided to ban American flags. The apartment manager said American flags might offend somebody in the community, so she issued a dictate: fly Old Glory, and you get evicted. American flag sticker on your car in the parking lot? Not allowed. No Stars and Stripes flying from a motorcycle or a car.

So the American patriots living there fought back. They said anyone offended by their American flags would have to just get over it. They started flying flags everywhere. One mom put an American flag poster in her son's window. He is fighting in Iraq, wearing the flag on his shoulder. One lady just walked around the complex every day waving the flag.

These people did not give in. They were offended by the flag police. You see, the Constitution protects their right to display the flag as free speech. And yesterday the apartment manager backed off. Flying Old Glory is okay again, even if it offends the politically correct apartment owner.

So, congratulations to these American patriots. The score: American flag 1—flag police, zero.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1030

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2892, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 829 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 829

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2892) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. The conference report shall be considered as read. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the conference report to its adoption without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate; and (2) one motion to recommit if applicable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), and all time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 829.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 829 provides for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2892, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act of 2010. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. And finally, the rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervention of any motion, except 1 hour of debate and one motion to recommit, if applicable.

This conference report appropriates over \$42 billion in funds necessary to protect the American people and enhance our national security. Through terrorist threat mitigation, natural disaster response, and immigration enforcement, this appropriations bill provides the funding to fulfill the many essential responsibilities of a range of important governmental agencies, from the Coast Guard to FEMA to Customs and Border Protection to the Transportation Security Administration.

Particularly critical in this legislation are the partnerships established with State and local communities to prepare for and protect against a range of emergency situations, including natural disasters and acts of terrorism and violence. The funding provided for emergency response resources demonstrates the need for collaboration among Federal, State, and local governments in providing for effective security. It's worth noting a few of the major initiatives contained in this conference report.

This legislation helps secure our borders by providing over \$10 billion for Customs and Border Protection, including funding for over 20,000 Border Patrol agents, which represents an increase of 6,000 agents since 2006. In addition, this report extends authorization of the E-Verify program for 3 years, under which employers are able to check the legal status of their workers. This legislation provides the funding to operate and improve the existing E-Verify program.

Ensuring the safety and security of our Nation's infrastructure is a critical part of this legislation. This conference report provides the necessary funding to the Transportation Security Administration and the Coast Guard to protect our Nation's vast transportation network, including airports, seaports, subways, trains, and buses. With this funding, the TSA will be able to improve explosive detection equipment at airports, and the Coast Guard will be able to replace aging ships and aircraft, which is much needed, modernizing a force that is essential to our national security.

Madam Speaker, I have always praised the Federal Emergency Management program for the fine work they do in helping distressed communities. In my home State of Florida, we are frequently plagued with natural disasters, including hurricanes and flooding. These disasters profoundly impact Florida's residents, particularly when so many individuals and families experience severe damage to their homes and communities.

I'm pleased with the funding levels indicated in this report for the firefighter grants, flood map modernization, predisaster mitigation, and emergency food and shelter programs. I know that the men and women at FEMA work hard and are dedicated to relieving the plight of Americans faced with the hardships of natural disasters.

At the same time, I've never been shy about making my voice heard on matters important to my constituents and all residents of Florida and our Nation that experience disasters. I have been outspoken on the need for FEMA to improve temporary housing.

I'm also pleased to have included language in this bill requiring the Florida Long Term Recovery Office, located in Orlando, to remain open. And a footnote there, Representatives ALAN GRAYSON and SUZANNE KOSMAS are deserving of a lot of consideration from