

Upton	Waters	Wilson (OH)
Van Hollen	Watson	Wilson (SC)
Velázquez	Watt	Wittman
Visclosky	Waxman	Wolf
Walden	Weiner	Woolsey
Walz	Welch	Yarmuth
Wamp	Westmoreland	Young (AK)
Wasserman	Wexler	Young (FL)
Schultz	Whitfield	

NOT VOTING—16

Baird	Hastings (FL)	Shuster
Barrett (SC)	Herger	Speier
Eshoo	Hoyer	Tsongas
Farr	King (IA)	Wu
Gohmert	Radanovich	
Hall (TX)	Rogers (MI)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LUJÁN) (during the vote). Two minutes are remaining in this vote.

□ 1358

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I rise today calling for a cure for this terrible disease. Although breast cancer impacts both genders, it disproportionately targets women and even more disproportionately impacts African American and Hispanic women. It is the second leading cause of death among women.

Breast cancer is survivable if caught and treated early. Unfortunately, we all know someone who has had breast cancer, and its impact is devastating on families, on friends, and on entire communities. I have had both the honor and sorrow of knowing many breast cancer survivors and its victims. I am in awe of the women who not only survive this cancer, but use their awareness to spread awareness of breast cancer prevention. We must all work together to bring about greater breast cancer education, prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and most importantly, a cure.

Mr. Speaker, let's tell our mothers and sisters: Get tested; you can survive breast cancer.

□ 1400

HEALTH CARE TAX HIKES WILL HURT SMALL BUSINESS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, some of the most harmful components of the Democrats' proposed government takeover of health care are the heavy mandates and taxes placed on business. Under the Democrat bill, small businesses are re-

quired to offer government-approved insurance or pay an 8 percent tax on their entire payroll. This is the mother of all mandates. Its effect will be wide-ranging job losses and devastation to small businesses. Small businesses cannot handle \$800 billion in new taxes to pay for a government takeover of health care.

Small business people are not going to take this lying down. Groups like the Chamber of Commerce, that understand the needs of business best, have been working hard to illustrate just how harmful the Democrat proposals will be to small businesses and communities across the country.

Mr. Speaker, we need to tackle health care reform in a constructive way that does not destroy the small business people who make our economy work.

IT'S TIME FOR DEMOCRATS TO SCRAP THEIR HEALTH CARE REFORM PLAN AND WORK WITH REPUBLICANS

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, a majority of Americans have had enough with the idea of the government taking over their health care. Americans love freedom and deserve the freedom to choose the health plan that is best for their family.

This week, in the great State of Kansas, a coalition of State leaders has unveiled the Health Care Freedom Amendment that reserves the right for Kansans to manage their own health care options. As Kansans, we don't want Washington bureaucrats getting in the middle of medical decisions that should be made by patients and their doctors. We believe Kansans and the American people deserve better. That is why I am pleased to be a cosponsor of the Empowering Patients First Act that allows Americans who like their health care coverage the freedom to keep it, and gives Americans the opportunity to choose the health plan that best meets their needs.

Our bill also ensures medical decisions are made by patients and their physicians and improves Americans' lives through effective prevention, wellness and disease management programs. This is the only bill that won't dampen the development of new treatments that cure life-threatening diseases.

It's time for the Democrats to scrap their current plan, stop the backroom dealing, and start working with Republicans on real health care reform that ensures all Americans have the right to manage their health care options.

WITHOUT FOX NEWS, YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE HEARD . . .

(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. Mr. Speaker, the White House plays favorites with the media. They attack one cable news network for telling the truth and reward another for giving the President a free pass.

The White House recently said Fox News won't get equal access to administration officials. Just days later, the President invited liberal news hosts from rival network MSNBC to the White House for a private, off-the-record meeting. The reason for the double standard is that while MSNBC acts as a shill for the President, Fox reports the stories that the national media ignore.

For example, without Fox News, you might not have heard about the recent ACORN scandal. You might not have heard about the troubling political associations of the President's former green jobs czar, which eventually led to his resignation. And you might not have heard that the President's communications director said Chairman Mao is one of her favorite political philosophers.

The White House should treat all news organizations with professionalism, not just the ones that give them a free pass.

AMERICAN PLAN VS. DEMOCRAT PLAN

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on health care reform, we hear too much about Democrats versus Republicans. I would like to talk about the American plan versus the Democratic plan.

The American plan stands for transparency; the Democratic plan, secret agreements behind closed doors. The American plan: True, free competition; the Democratic plan: Government-controlled health care. The American plan: Medicare Advantage; the Democratic plan: Massive cuts in Medicare. The American plan: The primacy of the doctor-patient relationship; the Democratic plan: Government-determined courses of treatment.

In other words, the American plan stands for freedom. Unfortunately, the Democratic plan stands for government-imposed conformity.

We should listen to what the American people say, that's the American plan. Ignoring what the American people are saying is the Democrat plan.

ROBUST PUBLIC OPTION IS THE BEST OPTION

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak in favor of the robust

public option. I would like to point out that it costs \$85 billion less than the next positive public option, that it covers more people, it keeps middle-income workers from either ending up on Medicare or in a situation where they can't afford health care in the health care exchange.

The robust public option, Mr. Speaker, is based on an established rate structure of Medicare plus 5 percent and an existing provider structure. So it is available, it is affordable, and it will be providing quality health care to all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to say the robust public option would be the best option for the people in the United States of America.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand here in the name of a film producer named Noelle, who, in the midst of trying to show the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, was succumbed by breast cancer—did not die, but became very ill. During the midst of that time, her insurance was dropped.

I come in the name of Eric, a young lawyer who did pro bono work, who had a cold and was treated by an emergency room, given medicine for a pain in the neck, but yet died a few days later of a bacterial virus.

I come in the name of sick people across America to say that H.R. 3200, which will bring down the cost of premiums, which will provide a robust public option, will get rid of pre-existing conditions that keep you from getting insurance—which is wanted by over 70 percent of Americans, Republicans and Democrats. I come in their name to say it is time now to pass a robust health care reform package with a vigorous public option that addresses the needs of Americans and brings down the cost of premiums for all Americans, those with employer-based insurance and those who need the public option. It is time now. Martin Luther King said, "Now is the time."

HAITI

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am very disheartened to hear that in our sister country, Haiti, there is brewing a move to impeach the current prime minister, Prime Minister Pierre-Louis.

Prime Minister Pierre-Louis has recently gained a tremendous amount of confidence from the international community. The U.S. President and former President and U.N. Special Envoy Bill Clinton made a historic special trip to Haiti that held out the promise of new investment both to create new jobs and

to help the people of Haiti. I would hope that the government officials of Haiti will consider continuing to move the country along in a positive way and move to support the prime minister.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

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

THE HAWKS ARE SQUAWKING FOR WAR AGAIN

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the Nation's war hawks are unhappy. Their feathers are ruffled. They accuse President Obama of dithering when it comes to sending more troops to Afghanistan. They want the President to shoot first and they want him to ask questions later, but committing our Nation to war is the most important decision that any President can make. The Commander in Chief must think long and hard before doing any such thing. President Obama is making a careful review of the situation in Afghanistan, and he is right to do so.

I've had some disagreements with the President about some of his policies so far, but I strongly support his desire to think things through and consider all of his options before proceeding. So far, the only option the United States has tried for the past 8 years is the military option, and it is painfully clear, Mr. Speaker, that it has not worked. A story in today's Washington Post makes that point. It describes a U.S. official in Afghanistan who resigned his job because he opposed American strategy there. This man is a patriot, and a tough former marine who fought with uncommon bravery in Iraq. But he believes that the presence of American troops in Afghanistan is making the insurgency grow.

I made a similar argument when I voted against the Supplemental appropriations bill for Afghanistan back in May. I warned that continuing the military-only strategy will fuel anti-Americanism, and that's what is happening.

More and more, the Afghan people see America as an occupying force that cares only about itself. Meanwhile, the Taliban is doing a much better job of winning hearts and minds. We've got to turn that around. The best way to do

that is to devote most of our resources in Afghanistan to meeting the civilian needs of the Afghan people. That means humanitarian aid, jobs and economic development, education, agricultural assistance, better infrastructure, and protection from disease.

That doesn't mean we should be ignoring the violent extremists in Afghanistan—far from it. We can go after them aggressively by using the highly effective tools of SMART power. SMART power includes better intelligence and surveillance work.

The extremists in Afghanistan can be found in many small networks of individuals and groups who are spread out over the countryside. You need good intelligence to track, penetrate, and disrupt their activities.

□ 1415

We must also build up the civilian police force so they can arrest the extremists. Strong policing is a highly effective counterinsurgency tool because it's right there in the villages where the extremists live.

We must also step up our diplomatic efforts. We've got to do a better job of engaging all the nations in the region that have an interest in stabilizing Afghanistan.

These strategies will work, but they won't satisfy the war hawks. President Obama is right to ignore them. He must also ignore the voices of his own administration, calling for an escalation of the war.

As he rethinks America's role in Afghanistan, I urge him to produce a strategy that relies on the tools of smart security and improves the lives of the people. That is the only real path, Mr. Speaker, to success in Afghanistan.

INDIAN HEALTH CARE—MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's nothing new for the Federal Government to try to run health care. The Federal Government has been committing medical malpractice against the Native American Indians for over 200 years. It's a miserable failure. Just ask those folks that live on Indian reservations. They are treated under a system called the Indian Health Service program, a universal government-run health care system for, specifically, Native American Indians. There are long waiting lines for service; doctors are scarce; the quality of medical care is poor; it costs too much, and it results in rationed health care. When the government is running health care, people get inferior treatment.

There has been a lot of talk lately about changing the name of "public option" to call it "Medicare part E" so that will sell with the American public, or the "consumer option" is another