

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, this week debate continues in the Senate over a massive health care overhaul. What's at stake for seniors? Many seniors will probably see their benefits cut or higher premiums. The Senate bill cuts more than \$135 billion from hospitals serving seniors. It cuts \$40 billion from home health agencies, \$15 billion from nursing homes, and nearly \$8 billion from hospices—an all-important service our seniors depends on.

Seniors deserve to know how Washington Democrats are going to pay for their massive new government-run bureaucracy because cuts like these will affect their care.

As a heart surgeon, I know that we can do better. We need to work together to strengthen Medicare, putting it on sound footing to ensure that it will be there when seniors need help with their health care costs.

We need to lower health care costs for seniors and all Americans by increasing competition in the insurance marketplace, promoting wellness programs, and limiting frivolous lawsuits in medicine. We can accomplish these commonsense solutions if we work together.

Let's protect seniors. Let's protect Medicare.

#### AMERICAN JOBS ARE TRENDING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

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

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, while one month with fewer job losses does not show success, it certainly shows that we are trending in the right direction.

This blue is since President Obama took office; the red is the time under former President Bush. You see back in January of 2008 we started losing jobs. Here is when the Presidential candidate for the Republicans claimed that the fundamentals of our economy were sound. And in the last month that President Bush was in office, this country lost over 740,000 jobs.

The blue shows the direction under the Obama administration where we are trending in the right direction. It's not success, but it certainly shows we are trending in the right direction from over 70,000 jobs to 11,000 jobs. It's a tragedy for any family that has lost a job, but it does show that one election has truly made a difference in our economy.

#### JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know the American people deserve some answers. Where are the jobs? Ten months after passing a

\$787 billion stimulus package, unemployment has reached 10 percent and thousands of workers have stayed unemployed for 6 months or more. Unfortunately, the Democrats still think throwing money at the struggling economy will fix it.

Albert Einstein once said, "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again expecting different results." The first stimulus didn't work. The new stimulus would only increase the already massive deficit and provide a temporary fix.

Higher taxes and higher spending is not the formula for economic growth. What America really needs is to encourage entrepreneurial activity, help small businesses, and get the government out of our pockets.

#### OPPOSITION TO STUPAK-PITTS AMENDMENT

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I've witnessed the horror of choice between back alley abortions and sometimes enforced marriages to try to avoid disgrace. Those were the realities that women faced prior to 1973. My fear is if this harmful Stupak-Pitts language is signed into law, we will revert back to those dark times.

Critical to this debate is a breakdown of the facts. The opposition says that it codifies current law. It is grossly incorrect. Stupak-Pitts goes far beyond current law, placing unprecedented restrictions on the individual's use of their own private dollars. The Hyde amendment does not apply to private funding nor does it apply to administrative costs. It has only placed limits on direct Federal appropriations being used to fund abortion benefits. That brings in everyone who has insurance from their employer, which is tax exempt, which means, of course, a Federal subsidy.

The Hyde amendment does not include similar, far-reaching language. Seventeen States currently provide abortion coverage without separate funding.

We must not go back to the back alley.

#### UNITED STATES IN DANGER OF LOSING ITS CREDIT RATING

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

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise again this morning to remind this body that we must stop this runaway spending in Congress or we are in jeopardy of losing our AAA credit rating. This would greatly hurt the United States of America's credit.

Moody's Investment Services indicates the United States will lose its AAA rating in 2013 if Congress con-

tinues to put us on this fiscal train wreck of too much spending and record Federal deficits. The Federal deficit for 2009 was \$1.4 trillion, tripling our record. The President's own Office of Management and Budget estimated in August that the budget deficit would be more than \$9 trillion over the next 10 years. Add this to the \$12 trillion in U.S. debt, and we're on a track to nearly double our record.

Mr. Speaker, we must stop the spending and stop it now.

#### THE BIRTHEERS AND DENIERS ARE WRONG

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, the President is right to go to Copenhagen and lead the world against global warming. He is right to defeat the birthers who have tried to stop him from being President and the deniers who refuse to accept the fact of global warming. Both the birthers and the deniers refuse to accept clear, pure facts.

I just read that a former Governor of Alaska was arguing today in a newspaper that there is no such thing as global warming associated with human activity. She needs to read the National Academy of Sciences report which concludes it is a fact. She needs to read the report of NASA—the people who put the men on the Moon—that concludes this is a fact. She needs to read the NOAA reports about acidification of the ocean which shows it is a fact.

The birthers and the deniers are wrong. We should restore American leadership and make sure the jobs of the future clean energy economy are here, not just in China. The President is right; the deniers are wrong yet again.

#### WHERE ARE THE JOBS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, in January, President Obama and congressional Democrats promised spending another trillion dollars would create jobs immediately and that unemployment would not rise above 8 percent. Almost 1 year later, millions of Americans are still plagued by unemployment and many are struggling to make ends meet. In October, 190,000 jobs were lost and more than 2.8 million jobs have been lost since the so-called stimulus was signed by President Obama.

The American people continue to ask, Where are the jobs? I can safely say the answer lies in the House Republican economic recovery plan. Our plan provides targeted tax relief for working families and small businesses. Just as American families must improve their economic situations

through fiscal discipline, so, too, must this Congress.

House Republicans are passionately committed to creating jobs and getting the American people back to work.

□ 1030

#### WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

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

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, reproductive self-determination is one of the most fundamental civil and human rights a woman can have. And this right is under attack in the health care reform debate. Let's be clear that the real goal of the anti-choice opposition is not to maintain the status quo. Rather, they want to extend Federal prohibitions into private pocketbooks. They hope to make abortion coverage so unattractive that insurers eventually stop offering coverage for an otherwise legal medical procedure.

Women do not plan to have unintended pregnancies or pregnancies with complications. Unfortunately, these do happen. It is deeply insulting to tell women that if you want to guard against these unplanned situations, go buy additional coverage.

Essentially, health insurance companies today already treat being a woman as a preexisting condition, and they charge us more for it. The men of this country would rise up in protest if they faced this kind of unequal treatment based on conditions particular to their gender.

#### JOB RECOVERY

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

Mr. SIREN. Mr. Speaker, today Congress is faced with one of the greatest economic challenges of our time: high unemployment rates. It is a challenge that we must be determined to meet. While current unemployment numbers are still too high, the continued decline of job losses is a promising sign of economic recovery that we must build on.

We have already taken bold steps to lift our Nation out of recession. Since January, we have stabilized the financial system, revived lending to small businesses, prevented home foreclosures, cut taxes for the middle class, extended unemployment insurance, and created and saved more than 1 million jobs.

We must now build on this progress for continued job growth. Yesterday, the President outlined a frame of action to produce the greatest number of jobs while generating the greatest value for our economy. His top priorities include helping small businesses grow and hire new staff, additional investments in our roads, bridges, and infrastructure to create shovel-ready jobs, and increased investments in clean energy to spawn more green jobs.

In order to face our unemployment crisis head-on, Congress must follow the President's lead by passing a comprehensive jobs recovery package.

#### WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, for 8 years, President Bush's administration looked the other way as Wall Street exploited our financial system and ignored mounting risks. This failure to regulate our markets led to Wall Street gambling with America's livelihood and compromised our families' futures and savings.

Here we go again, making the tough choices that are necessary to bring our economy back from the brink of disaster. This great Nation is suffering the consequences of a period in our history where living beyond our means plagued not only American consumers but also those on Wall Street whose greed compelled them to take indefensible risks. The market failed us. It certainly wasn't a free market. It's beyond a "minor adjustment."

Wall Street reform is a critical step as we turn the tide and change not only how we deal with our financial sector but also where we lay to rest 8 years that marked the most fiscally irresponsible period in our Nation's history.

As we rebuild our economy, we must put in place commonsense rules to ensure Wall Street cannot jeopardize our recovery again.

#### STUPAK AMENDMENT

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in objection to the Stupak-Pitts amendment that was added to our Affordable Health Care for America Act 1 month ago. It represents an overreach that denies women the right to buy abortion coverage with their own money. It will eventually deny all but the wealthiest women in America access to reproductive choice.

Were it up to me and many of my colleagues on both sides of this issue, abortion would never have intruded into our health care debate like this. But sadly, the Conference of Catholic Bishops had other ideas. They chose to hold comprehensive health care reform hostage to the abortion issue. They lobbied for this legislation in a manner that was unbecoming to our faith, and in doing so, they failed their obligation to help the poor and heal the sick.

Nonetheless, I'm heartened to see that, yesterday, our colleagues in the other body rejected a similarly overreaching amendment. I hope that we will get back to a common ground approach when it returns from conference. America's women need a

health care bill that ends discrimination against them, not encodes it ever further into our system of law.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4213, TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 955 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 955

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4213) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASCRELL of Arizona). The gentleman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ARCURI. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4213, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 and 10 of Rule XXI and against the bill itself. The rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motion except 1 hour of debate and one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this rule to assist American families and small businesses with needed tax relief in a time when American citizens and American small businesses are beginning to turn the corner. This rule will allow us to bring legislation to the House floor later today that will not only strengthen our economy by directing tax relief to middle class families and creating jobs at small businesses, but will also do this in a deficit neutral, fiscally responsible way.