

Parenthood of America. The largest abortion provider in America should not also be the largest recipient of Federal funding under title X.

Today, I filed an amendment to block any funds under title X in the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill from going to Planned Parenthood again. It's the same amendment that was supported by 189 bipartisan Members in the year 2007, and I'm confident it would enjoy broad support again.

The Pence amendment would simply prevent funds under title X from going to Planned Parenthood. It would not reduce the total amount of funds available for ethical family planning services.

The truth, is title X clinics do important work in the underserved communities around this country. A number of federally funded clinics across the Nation offer beneficial services, including patient counseling, breast cancer screening, and ethical family planning.

By contrast, Planned Parenthood's annual report reports that it received \$350 million in revenue from government grants and contracts. In the same annual report, they boast 305,000 abortions provided.

Title X money should go to meet the underserved community, not to provide offsetting resources for the largest abortion provider in America.

□ 1030

THE AMERICAN GRADUATION INITIATIVE

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

Mr. SCHAUER. Today I want to tell you about Ray Roddy from Hillsdale, Michigan. Ray was laid off from his job making engine components and realized he would need further education to find another job. He enrolled at Jackson Community College and is working hard to become a nurse. Ray isn't alone. In the last 2 years, 6.5 million Americans have lost their jobs and many remain unemployed.

In today's economy with rising unemployment, it is critical to invest in our future by increasing the number of college graduates. That's why I support President Obama's American Graduation Initiative. This initiative will help prepare Americans for the jobs of the 21st century. It will help people like Ray gain the education and skills they need to compete in the global economy. It will also establish new grants to help community colleges improve access to education and build ties to businesses to increase graduates' chances of gaining employment. With the American Graduation Initiative, the number of unemployed Americans will be dramatically reduced in the next 10 years by helping 5 million people earn more college degrees. Ray Roddy needs a job, and he is going to get one. Thanks to this exciting initiative, so will 5 million other Americans.

URGING MEMBERS TO PASS HEALTH CARE REFORM BEFORE THE AUGUST RECESS

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with tremendous hope and full confidence that we are finally moving forward with legislation that will put our health care system on the right track and bring quality, affordable health care to all Americans. I strongly support H.R. 3200, America's Affordable Health Choices Act. I believe that this is the right step for families, for small businesses, and for people in Maine and all across the country. But I also have a warning, a warning that comes from my experience in the Maine Legislature, a warning that comes from taking on the pharmaceutical companies, the insurance companies and the entrenched special interests that have done everything they can to block health care reform for a generation.

Mr. Speaker, if we go home for recess without passing this bill, we will give the special interests and their lobbyists 5 weeks to dump millions of dollars into ad campaigns that spread misinformation, fear and confusion. We will give them 5 weeks to do everything they can to kill the best chance we have had in a lifetime to move forward on significant health care reform. We must pass this bill now. We absolutely cannot afford to wait. I look forward to going back to my district in August and telling the good people of Maine that we didn't let them down.

HEALTH CARE REFORM WILL MAKE INSURANCE COMPANIES COMPETE FOR CUSTOMERS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, we already know that the Republicans have committed themselves to doing everything possible to prevent this body from passing the health care reform that the American people desperately need and want. Yesterday and today, we've heard a Greek chorus of Republican talking points designed to misrepresent what we are trying to do to help the American people maintain and gain access to affordable quality care. Among the most glaring misrepresentations is that we're somehow going to force the American people to be insured in a public plan. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The essence of our proposal is to provide choice and competition so that insurance companies will have to compete for the American people's business rather than the American people having to beg for coverage, only to find that their coverage isn't adequate when they really need it. This is the type of reform that we need for this country, for the American people; and

no Republican misrepresentations will prevent this body from acting.

AMERICANS DO NOT WANT BUREAUCRATS LIMITING HEALTH CARE OPTIONS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on a daily basis we make our own choices. From decisions as simple as paper or plastic, diet or regular, decaffeinated or high-test to ones as profound as Republican or Democrat and temple or church as the place we choose to worship. We come from a Nation of freedom that has allowed us to make choices in our lives. But if Democrats have their way, government bureaucrats will soon choose our health care. There is a television advertisement about a woman whose doctor told her to go get her affairs in order because she had cancer and less than 6 months to live. She then chose to go to a different provider, and several years later, she is still alive and healthy.

Under the Democratic proposal, an unelected official in Washington will be making health decisions for individuals and families across this Nation. Patient choice will be a thing of the past unless you are wealthy enough to go outside the system. When competition dies, so does quality.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons this Nation has the best health care in the world is competition and compassion. Let's choose not to lose that quality and to continue to be able to go to the physician who can best serve our needs.

AMERICANS WITH PREEXISTING CONDITIONS NEED HEALTH INSURANCE TOO

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

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, as we have worked these last several months on the issue of health care, I have engaged my community in a variety of townhall meetings, forums and opportunities for them to let me know what they need out of the health care bill, to tell me their stories. I would like to share one of those with you. My constituent writes, This is not my story, but it is the story of a close friend who died last November at the age of 50. During his life, he was afflicted with diabetes and heart disease. He was self-employed and could not get health insurance because of his preexisting conditions. A few months prior to his death, he asked me to review a brochure advertising a plan to get discounts on various things, including medical services and drugs, but clearly stated it was not insurance. I told him the company was not promising anything, only a hope that discounts could be obtained. He was going to pay the \$178 per month premium anyway because he couldn't get insurance or any

other kind of help. A few months later, he suddenly died.

Mr. Speaker, we have an opportunity here with H.R. 3200 to pass a bill of historic proportions to address issues such as this constituent and many Americans are facing, to have a health care plan that is affordable and accessible for all Americans, that will lower the cost of health insurance, to provide a public option that gives people a choice of doctors and plans, and puts an emphasis on prevention and wellness. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RESTORING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH THE STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2920, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go, or PAYGO, Act as a long overdue return to fiscal responsibility. We hear a lot from our colleagues and friends on the other side of the aisle talking about their newfound concern about deficits. But it was a Republican Congress that allowed PAYGO legislation to expire in 2002 even after, in fact, it worked to produce two consecutive surpluses in 1999 and 2000 under a Democratic President. Unfortunately the Republican-controlled Congress didn't renew PAYGO in 2002, leaving us, once again, with annual deficits that this year now reached \$1 trillion, most of it on their watch.

Mr. Speaker, the cure for deficits is not floor speeches, catchphrases or expensively produced charts. The cure is fiscal responsibility. This House, if it's going to be serious about fiscal responsibility, must return to statutory PAYGO. I support the bill.

A HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY HORROR STORY

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. A health insurance company horror story about Robin Beaton, a 59-year-old woman who was a registered nurse for 30 years, healthy, with health insurance. She retired to set up her own small business and got an individual policy with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. She went to the dermatologist for acne. A word was written on her chart that, interpreted incorrectly, as meaning precancerous. Here are her words, Shortly thereafter, I was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of breast cancer and was told I needed a double mastectomy. The Friday before the Monday I was scheduled to have my double mastectomy, Blue Cross red-flagged my report due to the dermatologist's report. The dermatologist called Blue Cross directly to report I had only acne and pleaded not to hold up the surgery. Then Blue Cross called

to inform her that they were launching a 5-year medical investigation into her medical history and that she would not be able to have the surgery. She was frantic. Then she found out that the insurance policy that she had been paying premiums on was canceled altogether. She says, The sad thing is Blue Cross took my premiums, and when I was suspected of having cancer, they searched for a reason to cancel me. This happened, and 7 months later the tumor doubled in size, went into her lymph nodes; and now her prognosis is worse.

We have an opportunity today to bring peace of mind to all Americans and pass health insurance reform.

PAYGO LEGISLATION WILL HELP US MOVE FROM DEFICIT TO SURPLUS

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, the House will be taking up statutory PAYGO legislation which will restore the policy that led from deficits to surpluses under the Clinton administration. Statutory PAYGO is a necessary step to restore fiscal discipline and begin bringing down the deep deficits that face our Nation. Without reducing the deficit, we won't be able to invest in vital priorities, including health care, education and clean energy.

The bill on the floor this week requires all new policies that either reduce revenues or expand entitlement spending be offset over 5 and 10 years. Discretionary spending is not subject to PAYGO and exceptions can be made for emergencies. We also take into account the political reality that several policies will continue, as in past Congresses, and allow them to be extended without offsets. Medicare physician payments, alternative minimum tax, middle class tax cuts and the current estate tax rates. I hope that all Members will support our PAYGO bill.

HEALTH CARE WILL BENEFIT AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURIAL INITIATIVES

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, before I was elected to the House of Representatives, I was an entrepreneur. I started several technology companies. Entrepreneurs across this country are a constant source of creativity, of job creation, of unleashing their creative potential to create jobs and bring new products and services to the marketplace. There are people today, Mr. Speaker, that would love to be entrepreneurs but for the fact that they are wedded and trapped in jobs because of the nontransportability of their health care. Mr. Speaker, for them and their families, they have to keep their cur-

rent jobs. They can't go off on their own. They can't start new companies. They might have great ideas that would unlock great value, and yet they are prohibited from doing so.

One of the great benefits of the Obama health care plan is that we will allow people to pursue their potential, to create jobs, to go off on their own without taking that risk of losing health care for them and their families. By doing so, we can unleash the potential of the American people and entrepreneurs across the country to create value and create jobs.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2245. An act to authorize the President, in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the historic and first lunar landing by humans in 1969, to award gold medals on behalf of the United States Congress to Neil A. Armstrong, the first human to walk on the moon; Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., the pilot of the lunar module and second person to walk on the moon; Michael Collins, the pilot of their Apollo 11 mission's command module; and, the first American to orbit the Earth, John Herschel Glenn, Jr.

H. Con. Res. 164. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 111-25, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission:

Sig Rogich of Nevada.

Frank Fahrenkoph of Nevada.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT OF 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 665 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 665

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2920) to reinstitute and update the Pay-As-You-Go requirement of budget neutrality on new tax and mandatory spending legislation, enforced by the threat of annual, automatic sequestration. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions of the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous