

**SCRAP THIS BILL AND LET'S START OVER ON REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM**

(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. Think about this concept of government-managed health care for just a minute. Imagine that the Federal Government told you you can have your house for free. That sounds good, right? Until they tell you that you have to live in government housing. Now what? How many Americans want to leave their homes for government subsidized housing?

Polls show that the more people learn about the government-controlled health plan, the less they support it.

Increasing the number of Americans who have health insurance is a laudable goal we all want to achieve, but paying \$1.5 trillion to get part of the way, with a government-controlled plan that eliminates choice and stifles the doctor-patient relationship, that's not the answer.

Mr. President, scrap this bill and let's start over on real health care reform.

□ 1015

**WE NEED REFORM**

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

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, the keepers of the status quo on health care are simply wrong. It is unacceptable for Americans to have their wage increases swallowed up by health care costs.

Our medical costs are rising three times faster than our wages. It consumes twice as much of our economy as it did just 12 years ago. The status quo is unacceptable.

Now some of my colleagues want to defend the status quo, trying to scare Americans to think that we're going to deliver bad medical care. Let me ask them this: Is the medical care at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, so bad? I don't think so.

Our bill, basically—and we are improving this bill as we speak—is going to provide the kind of care that Americans are getting at the Mayo Clinic. Because when our bill passes, it will in fact allow and inspire doctors to do what they do at the Mayo Clinic for half the price that Americans are paying for their medical care in Miami, Florida. Half the price at the Mayo Clinic for what Americans pay in medical care.

We need reform. We're going to pass it.

**MAYO CLINIC OPPOSED HEALTH CARE BILL**

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, let me say this, that the Mayo Clinic opposes this health care bill because it's nonsense, it costs too much, and it's going to put America more in debt. And that's just the way it is.

**HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM MEANS STABILITY FOR EVERY AMERICAN**

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Those within and without health insurance share something in common: they both lack stability and security when it comes to coverage, cost, and quality of their health care.

Every day, Americans are forced into tough decisions and circumstances that lead them to lose their health care. As the President mentioned last night, on average, 14,000 Americans a day are losing their health care.

Health insurance reform means stable coverage that can't be taken away. If your spouse is laid off or changes jobs, you won't lose your coverage. If you or your family or coworker get sick, you won't pay more or lose your coverage.

With health insurance reform, no one is able to get between you and your doctor. It will keep government out of health care decisions, allowing you to keep the coverage you have today if you want it.

Stability has been missing from our health care system for decades. As we work to get our economy moving again, now is the time to fix it. The proposed health insurance reform bill builds upon what works and fixes what is broken.

My constituents strongly want, need, and deserve a more stable and secure health care system. And that's what we need to fight to do.

**WE NEED TO SUPPORT, NOT TAX, SMALL BUSINESSES**

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, small businesses face challenging economic threats. Those who can afford to are struggling to provide health care to their employees.

The last thing small businesses need—and we've had 2.6 million jobs lost since the new President came in office—are more mandates and tax hikes that will destroy jobs. Unfortunately, under their health care tax, Democrats are proposing just that.

They believe small businesses should abide by government mandates and provide health care that meets a bureaucratic code or suffer an 8 percent tax and fines up to \$500,000. This is no way to treat the most prolific job-creating engine of our economy.

Republicans have solutions for affordable, accessible, and portable

health care without tax hikes on families and small businesses. We reject the rationing of health care and government intrusion and propose flexibility for small businesses to band together for affordable health care.

Republicans have solutions that will empower individuals, not Big Government. We will promote new jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

**NEED FOR 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 talk about the need for health care reform in this country, reform that must ensure patients can choose their doctor, is portable, and gives stability to our citizens as they grow old, change jobs, and face health problems. It must protect those with preexisting conditions and address prevention.

I've received countless calls from constituents about the need to fix what is broken and protect what works in this health care system.

Last night, on this floor, I heard a colleague on the other side of the aisle say that all Americans have health care today, the emergency room. Well, tell that to my constituents like Carla, who called about her sister Edith, who's been without insurance since last September.

Edith is 49 years old and suffers from severe osteoarthritis. Injured at work, she had to change jobs because she was denied workmen's comp. And then, after she got a job that offered some coverage, she was laid off due to economic conditions.

Now unemployed, Edith is without health insurance, insurance she desperately needs to help cover her doctors visits and her prescriptions. Edith is a victim of a failed system.

Madam Speaker, we need health care reform in this country to ensure that Edith and countless others are not left behind.

**WE THINK YOU'RE SMART ENOUGH WHEN YOU HAVE THE RIGHT INFORMATION**

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I'm very disappointed because the Democrats and the administration don't think the American people are either smart enough or they don't trust them to make their own decisions.

The Democrats and the administration have introduced a reform for financial markets that is going to start telling the American people, Hey, you're not smart enough or we don't trust you to determine what kind of

credit card you should have. We don't trust you, we don't think you're smart enough to determine what kind of mortgage you should take out.

We don't trust you, we don't think you're smart enough to determine what kind of car loan you should have. We don't trust you and we don't think you're smart enough to determine what kind of checking account that you should have.

Now we're going to tell the American people we don't think you're smart enough or don't trust you to pick your own health care.

You know, the American people are getting kind of tired of the Democrats telling them that they don't trust them or they don't think they're smart enough.

Madam Speaker, the Republicans have introduced a financial reform that says to the American people: we think you're smart enough when have you the right information.

#### AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

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

Ms. HIRONO. Rather than emulate the *laissez faire* strategy of the previous administration, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act less than a month after taking office. Now, just 5 months after its passage, some on the other side of the aisle are proclaiming it a failure.

In January 2009, before passage of the Recovery Act, the economy lost 741,000 jobs, foreclosures were at record highs, and the economic growth rate had hit negative 6.3 percent. Some \$10 trillion in wealth had been lost in the stock market.

The Recovery Act provided our States with vital funds, allowing thousands of teachers, law enforcement officials, and firefighters to stay on the job, to educate our children, and to protect our public. To call this a failure is putting rhetoric over people.

More than \$20 billion has been made available to fund over 6,000 shovel-ready transportation construction projects, over 2,500 of which are already under way.

The Recovery Act is not a cure-all to our economy's problems, but it has and will continue to make a difference for the better.

#### MYTH VERSUS REALITY ON HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Last night, President Obama held a prime time press conference in which he repeated many of the health care claims that are making their way around Capitol Hill. But what are the myths versus the realities?

Some even claim health care reform will not add to our deficit over the next decade. However, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has released its cost estimate on the House health care legislation, showing it will increase the Federal deficit by \$239 billion over the next 10 years.

Another claim is that no one will lose health insurance they have right now. This defies reality, Madam Speaker. According to an independent study, 114 million Americans will be forced out of their current health care coverage.

Madam Speaker, it's simple: Washington-run health care will mean more deficits, more debt, and more government interference in our lives.

#### AMERICAN RED CROSS REAL HERO AWARD

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

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional constituent from my district, Mr. Billy Jack Miller of Elephant Butte, New Mexico, who was awarded the 2009 American Red Cross Real Hero Award.

This summer, Billy Jack was presented the Good Samaritan Award for rescuing an individual from drowning in Elephant Butte Lake, where he has operated a local fishing guide service for many years. The man he saved fell into the lake and became trapped between the dock and a boat.

The Good Samaritan Award honors outstanding individuals who exemplify the spirit of heroism and humanitarianism at a distinguished level and a commitment to improving the lives of others. Billy Jack embodies this achievement.

Over the years, working on the water, he has developed a knack for spotting fellow boaters in distress and is always there to lend a helping hand.

I'm proud on the occasion of this pre-eminent award to have the opportunity to commend the work of Billy Jack Miller, a great citizen of Elephant Butte, New Mexico. It is my privilege to honor Mr. Miller for his work and dedication.

#### CONSUMER FINANCE PROTECTION AGENCY

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

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, I received a letter yesterday from a lady, an officer in a small community bank in Alabama. I wanted to share what she said with my colleagues.

She expresses her concerns that many community bankers are expressing about the legislation under consideration by the House Financial Services Committee to create a new government bureaucracy, otherwise known as the Consumer Finance Protection Agency.

Here's what she says: I strongly support consumer protections. In fact, my bank's competitive edge rests with our customers' implicit trust that we will deal with them fairly and honestly when they visit my bank with their best interests in mind. Don't take that ability away from me to meet their unique needs.

She points out that there are countless examples of local bankers offering nonstandard loan products to consumers and customers in an effort to meet their unique needs—not to victimize them, but to give them a product that fits their purpose.

Under the proposed protection agency, however, community bankers "would have a much harder time helping their customers. They'd have to go through all sorts of regulatory hurdles."

#### WE ALL WIN IN HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I have some excellent news for the people of northeast Wisconsin, people like Mike up in Marinette, Jenny in Appleton, and Jeff in Green Bay: access to affordable health care will be enacted this year by this Congress. After all, how can we continue the losing ways of the past, where discrimination against citizens due to preexisting conditions was allowed to take place.

You're going to hear arguments from one side and the other. But we stand on the side of the American people who understand this: There shall be no discrimination to any citizen due to pre-existing medical conditions. After all, we don't discriminate on the basis of the color of your skin. What about the chemistry of your skin?

The bill that's moving forward in this House will guarantee other things as well. It will guarantee small businesses will be able to reduce their costs for health care and allow them to employ more people and stimulate our economy at the greatest time of need.

□ 1030

#### NEW MANDATES FOR ABORTION COVERAGE IN EVERY INSURANCE PLAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, everywhere I go people tell me they're worried about the direction our country is headed.

So far in this Congress, all we've seen are bailouts and government takeovers. We've taken over or nationalized huge sectors of our economy. We've nationalized the banking industry and the financial sector. We've nationalized the home mortgage industry. We've