

prison in Tehran to keep her voice silent. She is jailed this very night as we assemble here in this cradle of liberty. What's the charge? What's her crime? Seeking freedom and respect seem to be her crimes. And by any means necessary, the black-booted government thugs want to silence those who exercise the first human right of freedom—and that being the freedom to speak out against oppression.

As a lawyer, Shadi represents Iranian activists and journalists. She has won cases for several women sentenced to be executed for violations of religious laws, and those convictions have been overturned. She is also involved in Women's Field, a group defending women's rights in Iran, including the "Stop Stoning Forever" campaign.

Mr. Speaker, women are tragically stoned to death for religious violations in Iran, for acts that aren't even crimes in civilized countries. They are buried up to their waist with their hands tied behind their backs, then a mob throws stones at them until they're dead. And sometimes it takes more than an hour to die. These violent, barbaric acts are to be condemned by those who value life and liberty.

For the first time in a Presidential campaign in Iran, women made their oppression an issue in the election. Women courageously confronted their oppressors demanding freedom.

One Iranian woman said, "When the elections were stolen, women felt betrayed. They took to the streets. Images of security forces beating up unarmed, innocent women were shocking and fueled their anger. At times, the number of women exceeded those of men in the protest."

One protester told reporters, "We don't sit in the corner and wait for the men to make change. We do it. We are the mothers of Iran."

You see, Mr. Speaker, women in Iran have been fighting for dignity and respect for over 30 years. Mr. Speaker, these mothers of Iran have true courage, the kind of courage that comes from standing for truth over government lies. The kind of courage that comes from fighting for freedom against tyranny.

It's been said "Tyranny is when the people fear the government. Freedom is when the government fears the people." And now, the government of Iran has begun to fear these ladies of liberty.

The women of Iran have shown their courage to the world. They speak with one bold voice saying "NO MORE". They will not be silenced because truthful, righteous words cannot long be silenced by the stones of oppression and the rocks of brutality.

The Ladies of Liberty are writing their own glorious page in history. They have been unjustly trampled, dragged, beaten, shot, and killed by a government that has declared war on its own people.

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They have earned their honored place among those who have shed blood for

freedom. But their fight is not for their native Iran alone. It is a fight for all freedom-seeking women and men worldwide that are being persecuted by their own government. Shadi Sadr and the wonder women have earned the respect of the free world.

Mr. Speaker, it is only a matter of time before the women of Iran win their freedom. They are throwing off the yolk of tyranny. With every step they take, they move closer to the day that liberty will be theirs. When they are successful in liberating their country from tyranny, Iran and the world will be safer. Their cause is righteous and their actions are just.

And that's just the way it is.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the urgent issue of health care reform. Later, the Congressional Black Caucus, led by a great leader who does this every Monday night on behalf of the CBC, Congresswoman MARSHA FUDGE from Ohio, will be holding another Special Order on health reform. Although I won't be able to join my colleagues tonight, I did want to come to the floor and add my voice to the chorus of members from the Congressional Black Caucus who are calling for real health care reform now.

I want to begin by commending my colleagues in the CBC, especially Congresswoman and Dr. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, who also is the second vice Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and chairs our Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust. She has been leading the charge to address racial and ethnic disparities in health care. Together with Representative DANNY DAVIS, who cochairs the CBC's Health and Wellness Task Force, the two of them have developed a very important set of requirements to ensure that real health care reform becomes the order of the day. So I just want to thank them for their leadership, and just know that the Congressional Black Caucus supports what they have put together with all of the input of the CBC.

Let me just begin by just saying, we have said over and over again that we want to ensure that there is a strong public health option linked to Medicare providers. This requirement must remain intact in the final bill.

We believe that we must continue to work to get this done as quickly as possible. That means hopefully we can do this before we recess this week. The 47 million uninsured deserve this. This means, again, we must pass a bill this week before we adjourn for the August recess.

The Congressional Black Caucus believes that a bill that is less than \$1 trillion, that is completely paid for,

that is budget neutral, would likely compromise many of the provisions that are important to the millions of Americans that are uninsured. This is unacceptable. We think the bill must at least have a cost of \$1 trillion. There is no reason to consider a bill less costly.

The CBC stands firmly behind an original request that we made, along with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, to include specific health disparity provisions from the TriCaucus bill, which I believe is H.R. 3090, the Health Equity and Accountability Act. We want these provisions in the final health reform bill.

The TriCaucus has worked on a comprehensive bill to eliminate health disparities for the last 8 years. We believe that we have a very good bill, and we are pleased that many of the provisions in our health care reform bill are included now as it relates to health and ethnic and racial disparities.

The CBC considers the provisions on children's health prevention services and mental health and substance abuse critical to this bill, and they should not be compromised in the final product. We must ensure that we guarantee true parity for mental health and comprehensive coverage, including dental and vision, for kids.

Also, the Congressional Black Caucus believes that the disproportionate share of hospital payments should not be cut in an unnecessary attempt to reduce the cost of the overall health bill. Many hospitals who care for a large number of low-income patients or which serve as teaching hospitals depend on these DSH payments to help cover their operating costs. We shouldn't be penalizing these hospitals, because ultimately that will affect their ability to provide access and care to low-income populations.

And finally, the Congressional Black Caucus strongly believes that we can realize a host of savings from a variety of provisions in this bill, whether or not the Congressional Budget Office agrees to evaluate and score these savings. As a caucus, we strongly recommend including a trigger in the final health care reform bill that would allow those savings to be used to replace current pay-fors and to add important services that were left out of the initial bill because of the failure to fully assess and score the final cost.

The bottom line is that expanding access to care and expanding the availability of preventive health services will cut costs and save lives and will be to the benefit of everyone. We should try and recapture those savings and use them to strengthen the system.

Last week, President Obama reminded us all of the important work that we must do, and we must do it now. We must reject claims that the cost of reforming health care in America is something our Nation can't afford. To the contrary; if we fail to act, and if we fail to act now, we do so at

the peril of the American people, particularly the 47 million who will continue to suffer.

Thank you, Congresswoman FUDGE, for your leadership.

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

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

SMOKE AND MIRRORS

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to passing a health care bill that the Democratic leadership insists that this will happen, they claim to currently have the votes to get it passed on this floor. If that's true, Mr. Speaker, then show us the bill. If the rhetoric coming from the other side of the aisle is true and you are planning to steamroll a \$1 trillion health care experiment through this body before August, then let's see it. Let us debate it. Let the American people see it. The American people deserve to see the bill with plenty of time for an open and honest debate about what is exactly in store for them if this partisan experiment passes.

The American people have seen enough smoke and mirrors about the Washington bureaucrat that will be inserted between them, as a patient, and their physician. They have seen enough smoke and mirrors about how many people will be forced off of their current health care plans. They have seen enough smoke and mirrors about the real cost of this plan. If you have the votes, then let's clear out the smoke, show us the bill, and finally give hard-working Americans answers to their questions.

AMERICA'S REPUTATION IS IMPROVING, BUT THERE'S MORE TO DO

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, one of President Obama's greatest challenges has been to restore America's moral leadership and reputation in the world because it sunk to new lows under the previous administration.

To achieve this goal, the President has taken several important steps. He has renounced the use of torture. He has called for a nuclear-free world. He has reached out to the Muslim world, and he has promised to emphasize diplomacy and international cooperation.

We are now seeing the results of these changes. Last week, the Pew

Global Attitudes Project reported the results of its latest survey of opinions about the United States. It found that the image of the United States has improved significantly under President Obama. People in Western Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia now have a much more positive opinion of the United States. America's reputation has even improved, Mr. Speaker, in some countries which are predominantly Muslim.

The survey also compared attitudes about President Obama and Osama bin Laden in the Muslim world. For the first time in the survey's history, people in Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, Nigeria, and Indonesia have a better opinion of the American President than bin Laden.

Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged that the people of the world have more trust and respect for America these days. It means our moral authority is being restored, and moral authority matters. When America is trusted, we have a much greater capacity for global leadership.

But even though our country's good name is being restored throughout the world, there is much more to be done. Most importantly, we need a foreign policy based on the principles of "smart power."

Smart power emphasizes preventing war instead of preemptive war. It relies on diplomacy and international cooperation instead of military occupation, and it gives the people of the world the hope and the opportunity they need to reject a life of violence and hatred.

The principles of smart power are included in my "Smart Security Platform for the 21st Century," which I have proposed in House Resolution 363. The Smart Platform calls for America to work with multilateral organizations to cut off funding and support for extremist networks. It strengthens international intelligence and law enforcement operations to track down extremists while respecting civil liberties. It helps eliminate the root causes of instability by promoting economic development, Third World debt relief, conflict resolution, global health programs, and universal education. It increases support for civil society, which plays a key role in stopping violence. It reduces our dependence on foreign oil by investing in renewable alternatives.

Smart calls for diplomatic efforts enhanced by inspection regimes and regional security arrangements to reduce the spread of nuclear weapons and nuclear materials. It calls for the ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by the Senate, and it provides adequate funding for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program to secure nuclear materials in Russia and other countries.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for America to start relying on smart power to protect our country because the smarter we are, the safer we are going to be.

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

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

HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BACHMANN. We need to know what the people who advise the President of the United States think and believe about health care reform, Mr. Speaker. Listening to the President's adviser's actual words I believe is very enlightening.

This morning I read a column written by Betsy McCaughey, and I would like to quote from it extensively now. This is from a column dated July 24, 2009. Ms. McCaughey wrote the following. She said, "The health bills coming out of Congress would put the decisions about your care in the hands of Presidential appointees. Government will decide, not the people, not their doctors, what our plan will cover, how much leeway our doctor will have, and what senior citizens will finally get under Medicare."

But what is even more important, Mr. Speaker, are the actual words of the President's advisers on health care. Here are the words from one of the President's first advisers, Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, the brother of the White House Chief of Staff. He has already been appointed to two key positions: one is Health Policy Adviser at the Office of Management and Budget, the other is as a member of the Federal Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research.

This is what Mr. Emanuel has written, and I quote, "Vague promises of savings from cutting waste, enhancing prevention and wellness, installing electronic medical records and improving quality are merely 'lipstick' cost control, more for show and public relations than for true change."

Isn't this what the Democrats have claimed we are going to find \$500 billion in savings for? The President's own adviser says this is just lipstick, this is just a paper covering, this isn't where the real savings are. Savings, the President's adviser writes, will require changing how doctors think about their patients. Doctors take the Hippocratic Oath too seriously, he writes. Now, hear me, Mr. Speaker, this is the President's adviser writing this, Doctors take the Hippocratic Oath too seriously "as an imperative to do everything for the patient regardless of the cost or effects on others."

But that is what the people want their doctor to do. But Emanuel wants doctors to look beyond the needs of their patient and consider social justice, such as whether the money would be better spent on someone else. This is