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RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. COLUMBAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

(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 this morning to recognize the 150th anniversary of my childhood parish, St. Columban Roman Catholic Church of Loveland, Ohio.

In 1859, Father John Baptist O'Donoghue, of St. Andrew's Parish in Milford, and 10 families worked together to raise enough money to purchase an old, one-room schoolhouse from the Village of Loveland on Broadway Avenue.

Like many budding parishes, the original rectory did not meet the needs of the local Catholic community for very long. In 1893, St. Columban built their second house of worship on that site. A few years later, the first school was built. This church will always hold a special place in my heart because my home was built from its bricks.

As the parish was celebrating its 100th anniversary, St. Columban was, once again, forced to expand to a new church at a different site. I was in attendance that day 50 years ago when Archbishop Karl J. Alter dedicated the new school building which housed the church in the cafeteria. Rapid growth twice required separate additions to be built to house the church. In 2002, the church finally moved out of the school and into its own building.

Each year, I have the privilege to host the St. Columban eighth-grade students to the Capitol. I am honored to be their Congresswoman and tour guide.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating St. Columban's 150th anniversary and in wishing them continued success.

God bless them. God bless the United States of America.

COMMONSENSE LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE WELLNESS

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, during the upcoming August work period, my colleagues and I will travel back to our districts to talk about meaningful health care reform that fixes what is broken and that protects what works.

One of the things that does not work is the skyrocketing costs of medical treatment in the United States. If Congress is serious about tackling the issue, we must address the growing concern of chronic disease—preventable conditions that account for 85 percent of total health spending. Obesity alone cost \$147 billion last year.

Today, I am introducing legislation that will offer up to 20 percent dis-

counted premiums to those who make the effort to live healthier lifestyles, such as not smoking, such as achieving and maintaining normal body mass index and working at lowering blood pressure and cholesterol levels. As a result, there will be an economic incentive to encourage personal responsibility for one's health, which will dramatically reduce overall costs.

As we look at health insurance reform, we need to make sure that we look at encouraging wellness. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this commonsense legislation to promote wellness.

IN APPRECIATION OF ALLEN AIMAR

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish a fond farewell to a member of the Second Congressional District staff, Allen Aimar.

Allen first served as a field representative in our Beaufort Lowcountry office before coming to Washington as military legislative assistant. Allen is leaving Washington behind for his law school career at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. He will be joined by his wife, Amber, who previously served on the staff of the Second District and as staff to Dr. Phil Roe.

Allen has been vital in helping constituents, particularly on military issues. He has brought his own experience and knowledge as a veteran of the Army National Guard in Iraq. He appreciates our servicemembers, their families and veterans.

Allen is the son of Allen and Deborah Aimar of Johnson City, Tennessee, and of Greg and Marian Erickson of Beaufort, South Carolina, and is brother to Adam Aimar.

We are all tremendously proud of Allen and Amber, and we wish them and their young son, Alexander Jacob Aimar, all the best in the years to come. Godspeed to the Aimar family.

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

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as we debate health care reform legislation, my Republican friends say things are fine just the way they are. "Take two tax breaks and call me in the morning," is their prescription. This in spite of the fact that premiums have doubled in 9 years, growing three times faster than wages; this in spite of the fact that the average American family already pays an extra \$1,100 a year in premiums to support a broken system;

this in spite of the fact that 46 million Americans are uninsured.

When my Republican friends say that the American people don't deserve health reform, my response is: Are you kidding?

KATRINA ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, August 29, 2009 will mark the fourth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. As I prepare to return to the Second District, I am reflective not so much of the unprecedented damage that wreaked havoc on the innocent but of the power of the human spirit that was so evident in every citizen as they've returned to New Orleans to rebuild their homes and to jump-start their communities.

I, too, lost everything in this storm. My wife and I, like so many others, were forced to start over after losing our home and business.

As Katrina became the byword for our Nation's social ills and failures, many even questioned the logic of rebuilding, but one only has to look around New Orleans and Jefferson Parish today to completely dispute that line of reasoning. New Orleans and Jefferson Parish are reemerging as the productive areas they once were. Tourism is back on the rise, and entrepreneurs are returning to reintroduce commerce and to boost the job market. But there is still much work to do.

The Stafford Act must be redesigned to bring a systemic means of Federal natural disaster assistance for State and local governments to aid citizens, and there must be a fundamental change in FEMA's approach to catastrophic disasters.

A UNIQUELY AMERICAN HEALTH CARE PLAN

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

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, today, it is time for health care reform.

Now, there are some out there who like to claim that we don't need reform now because the private marketplace will take care of everything. Well, the private marketplace hasn't taken care of anything except to increase deductibles, to increase premiums, and to increase copays that cost the American people. Let me tell you what that means in my home State of Maryland.

In 2001, if you were paying on the average of \$600 a month for your health care, today, you're paying an average of \$1,000 a month for your health care. Well, I don't know about anybody else, but in my household, an extra \$400 a month is real money. It's groceries. It's an electric bill. It's daycare. I mean, this is an important cost to the American people.

It is time for us to enact a uniquely American plan that doesn't embrace the insurance industry, that doesn't close down the insurance industry, but that says to the insurers: you have to compete in the marketplace with a public plan that relies on Medicare rates, that ensures that we will have real competition, and that is real change for the American people.

It is time for us to educate the American people and to get this done for the public so that we can be competitive.

THE BRITISH HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IS UNHEALTHY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, government-run health care has been around in England for over 60 years. In those years, the government still hasn't gotten it right.

In March, Britain's Health Care Commission, which has ironically been renamed the Care Quality Commission, reported that 1,200 people have died needlessly at two British hospitals over the past 3 years.

The government report said that Stafford Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital have filthy conditions and unhygienic practices. The government report says government-run hospitals don't have enough doctors and nurses and the doctors and nurses are poorly trained. They don't know how to use the cardiac monitors, and the hospitals don't even have enough of the cardiac monitors that they don't know how to operate. The British Government report also says that these two government-run hospitals have left patients with no food, no water and no medicine for up to 4 days.

Mr. Speaker, this is just another example that government-run health care has not worked. Doctors and nurses are rationed; care is rationed; medicine, food and water are rationed. The British health care plan is: "Just don't get sick" because the government-run system can't help you.

And that's just the way it is.

AMERICANS WILL FINALLY BE GUARANTEED HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day.

My committee, the Energy and Commerce Committee, will report out the health care reform bill today. It is very exciting because what it means is that people will finally be guaranteed health care, and they'll know that they'll have health care regardless of what job they have. They won't lose it if they go from job to job.

Right now, we have a lot of people in this country who are uninsured. They will be provided with health insurance. We have a lot of other people who are

afraid they're going to lose their jobs or who are afraid they're not going to be able to afford their health insurance.

Again, we'll address the affordability issue by bringing down costs for people who actually have insurance, and we'll guarantee that, whether or not you have a health condition and regardless of your gender, you'll be able to get the same health care; you'll be able to get the same insurance policy, and you won't be discriminated against.

This is a real opportunity for America to see that this Congress can actually do the job, that we can get the job done—that we can cover everyone and reduce costs—so that you'll finally have the peace of mind that you're guaranteed health insurance.

THE TRUTH ABOUT HOUSE DEMOCRATS' TAX INCREASES

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the American people know we need health care reform in this country, but thanks to House Republicans and a handful of Democrats in Congress, the American people have been given a reprieve on the Democrat plan to enact a government takeover of health care, paid for with more than \$800 billion in new taxes. Now, that tax increase number has been disputed in the past 24 hours, so I thought I'd pull the stats.

According to the Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation, the House Democrat reform bill includes \$543 billion in a surtax on high-income filers, \$208 billion in increased taxes on businesses, an additional set of tax increases—international tax increases which they refer to—of \$37 billion, and more taxes on benefits of \$2 billion. Taxes on individuals who do not purchase bureaucrat-approved health insurance—\$29 billion. So the total amount of tax increases included in the Democrat bill, according to official estimates, is \$820.1 billion over 10 years.

The chance for the American people to know what's in this plan and to come back and to pass health care reform without more government and more taxes? Priceless.

Let the debate begin.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3269, CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTION COMPENSATION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 697 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 697

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in

the House the bill (H.R. 3269) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation and to prevent perverse incentives in the compensation practices of financial institutions. 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 recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill 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 question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Financial Services; (2) the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by Representative Frank of Massachusetts or his designee, which shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question; (3) the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by Representative Garrett of New Jersey or his designee, which shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (4) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. All points of order against amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI.

SEC. 3. During consideration of an amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, the Chair may postpone the question of adoption as though under clause 8 of rule XX.

SEC. 4. In the engrossment of H.R. 3269, the Clerk is authorized to make technical and conforming changes to amendatory instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 697.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 697 provides for the consideration of H.R. 3269, the Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009, under a structured rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of general debate controlled by the Committee on Financial Services. The rule makes in order an amendment by Chairman