

to listen, and I plan to support the President of the United States in providing health care and making the greatest reforms in welfare moves for the people of our Nation and improvement in health care since 1965 when Medicaid and Medicare were passed. Those were great days for America.

#### HONORING NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE MARILYN RHYNE HERR

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

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize former New Jersey Superior Court Judge Marilyn Rhyne Herr for her 15 years of outstanding service to our State. I was honored to be part of the celebration recently honoring Judge Herr as her portrait was unveiled for permanent display in the Hunterdon County, New Jersey, courthouse.

Judge Herr was sworn in to the New Jersey Superior Court in 1989, becoming the second woman resident of Hunterdon County to be named a Superior Court judge and the first assigned to the bench in our home County. She was for many years in the family division, a court Judge Herr called the most important court there is.

More than a jurist, Judge Herr served for many years as a Girl Scout leader and two terms as president of the Rolling Hills Girl Scout Council. She is a patron of the arts, an avid reader of historical biographies, a former pilot, world traveler, and competitive tennis player.

Like my wife and me, she is a resident of Clinton Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and my wife and I are proud to call Marilyn Rhyne Herr our friend and neighbor.

Congratulations, Judge Herr, and thank you for your service to New Jersey.

□ 1030

#### THE WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

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

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to commend my colleague, Representative PAUL TONKO, for his work on the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009, a bill that I proudly cosponsored and supported during the committee markup process.

Much of our clean energy future depends on our ability to harness and use the renewable power of wind. New Mexico is well positioned to be a leader in renewable energy development, and wind and solar energy have the potential to power an entire country.

New Mexico's wind energy resources are vast. And as home to Department

of Energy national laboratories in New Mexico, with Sandia and Los Alamos, New Mexico is a hub of scientific discovery and innovative technology.

We are also investing in clean energy job training and education programs. In my district, the North American Wind Research and Training Center at Mesalands Community College has established curriculum and provided job training opportunities to create a strong labor force to support a robust renewable energy economy.

Still, we have a lot of work to do, and we must continue to invest in renewable energy research and development. Investment in science and technology will be the key to our clean energy future, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S JOINT SESSION ADDRESS

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, tonight when the President addresses the joint session of Congress, I hope that he will turn a new page in the health care debate, setting aside demands for a government-run, taxpayer-funded health care system and instead he will express support for real reforms that will reduce costs and increase access to quality health care for everyone regardless of preexisting conditions.

I hope to hear that the President finally will fix the medical malpractice crisis that continues to drive costs up and drives doctors out of Illinois and other States. I hope the President will finally commit to our small businesses by allowing them to band together in an association health plan so that they can provide affordable health care to their employees. And, finally, I hope that the President will join Members on both sides of the aisle to end waste, fraud and abuse plaguing Medicare and robbing seniors of much-needed health benefits.

It is my hope that after tonight's address the President and congressional Democrats will focus on bipartisan, commonsense reforms that will actually increase health care affordability and accessibility for all.

#### IT'S TIME TO ENACT REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. TITUS. As Congress returns to Washington to focus on the Nation's business, we bring back the many stories we heard while we were home in our districts.

I spent much of August traveling around my district in southern Nevada talking to folks about health care. I held roundtables, I convened a Congress on the Corner, I participated in

telephone town halls, and I visited community health clinics. I shared my views on reform; I dispelled many of the myths that were circulating by those who want to protect the status quo; and I heard from people who cannot afford health care or found out that they don't have the coverage for the medical treatment that they need.

It is clear that we can no longer afford business as usual. The worst we can do is do nothing. The current health care system obviously isn't working, so it's time to enact real health care reform, health care reform that provides people with choice, lowers the cost of care, expands access, and provides Nevadans and all Americans with peace of mind should they or their families become ill.

#### THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN; IS WASHINGTON LISTENING?

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

Mr. PENCE. After a tumultuous month of townhall meetings across the Nation, the American people have spoken, and House Republicans are on the side of the American people.

As the President comes into this well of Congress tonight to deliver a speech on health care reform, one thing is clear: the American people don't want just another speech on health care; they want another health care plan.

What I heard back home is that the folks want us to take action here in Washington that will lower the cost of health insurance and lower the cost of health care in the long term, but the American people don't want us to launch a new government-run insurance plan that will lead to a government takeover of health care paid for with \$800 billion in higher taxes.

As the President knows, House Republicans have a broad range of legislative ideas, and we hope to hear and reflect on some of them tonight. Why not let Americans purchase health insurance the way Members of Congress can across State lines? Why not bring about reasonable restrictions and limits on medical malpractice claims to end the era of defensive medicine?

House Republicans will welcome the President of the United States respectfully to the well of Congress tonight, and we stand ready to work with the Democratic majority to solve our health care challenges.

The American people have spoken. Tonight we'll see if Washington is listening.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, ever since President Truman proposed a system

to keep Americans from going bankrupt due to medical bills, the for-profit insurance industry has painted any effort at reform as un-American. I want to talk today about health and wealth.

Unlike then, there is now broad consensus that our system is unsustainable. Premiums are rising at three times the rate of inflation, 4,000 Americans are losing their coverage every day, and more and more are unable to get insurance simply because they have preexisting conditions. Still, those who profit most by the status quo, the for-profit insurers, continue to lie to the American people while they take home between \$70,000 a day and \$300,000 a day.

Let me be clear: no one in Congress is trying to nationalize medical care. On the contrary, providing Americans a basic low-cost public option simply expands access so that consumers can visit the doctors of their choice.

It's time we start caring less about making private insurance companies and their CEOs wealthy and get back to making Americans healthy.

#### WAKE UP AMERICA: THIS IS THE TIME FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Speaker, there are those in America who claim that we can't fix our broken health care system during an economic crisis. The truth is that we can't afford not to fix it.

Health care premiums have risen every year for more than a decade, at least three times as fast as family incomes have risen. If we doing nothing, those rising health insurance premiums will eat up an ever larger slice of family incomes. Businesses that provide health insurance as a benefit for workers and their families will be ever more competitively disadvantaged. That is a loss of jobs that America cannot afford to lose.

Others in America claim that reform will mean a government takeover of health care decisions. The opposite is true. Every American will be able to choose their insurance plan and their doctor, but dropping a person's coverage because of a preexisting condition will be prohibited from all insurance plans.

Reform will ensure that the doctor and the family make the critical decisions on needed care. Now the insurance company executives make those decisions, and they only care about their profits.

Wake up, America; this is the time for health care reform.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM DAILY MYTH BUSTER: IMPACT ON SENIORS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, we have nothing but myths and scare tactics to our seniors about health care.

What is one of the myths? Under the health care reform, a government panel, a bureau, will tell you when you can die. Nothing can be further from the truth. It will be up to your doctor and your family. It simply provides reimbursement for Medicare for doing this.

Another myth: health care reform will lead to rationed care. No such thing. We have it now. As a matter of fact, nothing will stand between you and your doctor to make the best decision. Reform actually takes insurance company bureaucrats out of this decision and let's you make it.

What about the myth about health care reform is a government takeover? Just another lie. Under the bill, there is no government takeover of health care. Every American will still be able to choose their doctor and their health insurance plan and make decisions that they want.

The fourth out of these five myths: health care will reform and end Medicare. Untrue. As a matter of fact, it will strengthen Medicare and it will lower prescription drug benefits—take that doughnut out of Medicare.

And, finally: We can't afford to fix health care during an economic downturn. We can't afford not to fix it.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JEAN SCHMIDT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JEAN SCHMIDT, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, DC, August 11, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Ohio Elections Commission.

After consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

JEAN SCHMIDT,  
Member of Congress.

#### ELECTING A MINORITY MEMBER TO A STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 723

*Resolved*, That the following member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee:

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM—Mr. Luetkemeyer.

Mr. PENCE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 255

In the Senate of the United States, September 8, 2009.

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy was elected to the Senate in 1962 and served the people of Massachusetts in the United States Senate with devotion and distinction for nearly 47 years, the third longest term of service in Senate history;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy became the youngest Majority Whip in Senate history at the age of 36;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy served as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1979–1981 and as Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee for nearly 13 years between 1987–2009;

Whereas the Honorable Edward Moore Kennedy made the needs of working families and the less fortunate among us the work of his life, particularly those of the poor, the disenfranchised, the disabled, the young, the old, the working class, the service member and the immigrant;

Whereas his efforts on behalf of the citizens of Massachusetts and all Americans earned him the esteem and high regard of his colleagues;

Whereas more than 300 laws bear his name and he co-sponsored more than 2,000 others covering civil rights, health care, the minimum wage, education, human rights and many other issues; and

Whereas with his death his State and the Nation have lost an outstanding lawmaker and public servant: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate has received with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the passing of the honorable Edward Moore Kennedy, the great Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the Kennedy family.

*Resolved*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 179. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas