

how much consensus there was about health care reform. People liked health care reform.

What they didn't like were things that are not actually in the bill. Because of the massive disinformation campaign on this bill, people didn't like things that weren't there.

There were more hallucinations about this from opponents of this bill than there were when Timothy Leary was doing business in Haight-Ashbury in the late 1960s. Take this hallucination that this bill is going to insure illegal immigrants. You look at page 132, it says, "For purposes of this division, the term 'affordable credit individual' means, subject to subsection (b), an individual who is lawfully present in a State in the United States."

Look at page 143, "Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States."

Now, the President was challenged during his joint address to the U.S. Congress. I will tell you what, if there was a deception, it wasn't by the President of the United States.

And it is time for us to call out those people who spread hallucinations, phantoms, boogeymen. People want health care and this reform. We are going to pass it.

SKYROCKETING NATIONAL DEFICIT

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the President has claimed that his policies are going to reduce the skyrocketing national deficit, but I would like to spend just a moment to debunk this myth.

Rather than reducing the deficit, the President's budget calls for a \$9 trillion deficit over the next 10 years, 6 trillion higher than the CBO predicted just in January when he took office. Even according to the White House, the national debt will more than double in 10 years. The President's own numbers showed that the national debt will be 107 percent of GDP by 2019.

In the month of August, there were 14.92 million unemployed individuals looking for work, the highest number in history. Since February, when the Democrats passed their stimulus, 2.46 million people have lost their jobs.

And while the President promised that billions of dollars would go into shovel-ready construction projects that would help rebuild infrastructure and employ hundreds of thousands, transportation spending from the stimulus has only trickled out at a snail's pace.

Given this administration's track record, why wouldn't the American people be skeptical about \$1.6 trillion for health care reform?

REFORMING HEALTH INSURANCE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, reforming health insurance must be our focus for now. The vast majority of Americans already have health insurance.

The question is, what does our health care reform bill mean to them? Just three things. It means an insurance company can no longer decide to deny any coverage or jack up your rates because of preexisting conditions. It means it will be against the law for insurance companies to drop your coverage when you get sick or water it down when you need it most. It also means insurance companies will no longer be able to place some arbitrary cap on the amount of coverage that you receive each year.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the insurance companies to come to the table, spend the millions on corrective measures instead of spending millions to pass out these mistruths and falsehoods, and try to work this problem out. The American people deserve everyone working together to get decent health care reform for the people of this Nation, and they don't deserve all the misinformation that's going around out there.

□ 1230

HONORING THE LIFE OF PATROLMAN JERRY ALAN JONES

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jerry Alan Jones, a police officer in my hometown of Charleston, West Virginia, who died tragically in the line of duty while chasing a suspect early Sunday morning. At just 27, Patrolman Jones truly exemplified what it meant to serve both his local community and as a citizen of our Nation. Before becoming a patrolman with the Charleston Police Department, he was a sergeant with the United States Marine Corps and helped to secure the Kandahar Airport when the U.S. military first went to Afghanistan after September 11. Back at home, he was active in his local church, where he met his wife, Samantha. The couple recently celebrated their first anniversary together. Today the city of Charleston mourns the loss of one of its finest. Patrolman Jones led a life to which we should all aspire. We mourn with his wife, Samantha, with his family, and we offer our prayers of comfort and remembrance.

I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognition of Patrolman Jerry Alan Jones, our friend, protector and hero, for his fearless courage in serving the citizens of Charleston and the entire State of West Virginia.

REMEMBERING MAESTRO ERICH KUNZEL

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

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, on September 1, we lost an artist who helped shape a generation of music in this country. For more than 40 years, Erich Kunzel shared his remarkable talent and passion with music lovers across greater Cincinnati and around the world. His tireless leadership and enthusiasm helped build the Cincinnati Pops into a musical organization without peer. Their many recordings over the years brought classical and contemporary masterpieces into the homes of countless Americans. Whether directing from his podium at Riverbend Music Center or leading the National Symphony Orchestra, as he did here in Washington every year on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, Maestro Kunzel was a source of pride for Cincinnati and a mainstay of our Nation's musical community. He will be dearly missed by all of us whose lives were enriched by his boundless creativity.

AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE BILL

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, all of us had the opportunity to spend 5 weeks at home, listening to our constituents. And in Vermont, when I arrived home, such as with many of you, people were very fearful about a health care bill, a health care bill that was going to establish death panels, a health care bill where the government was going to select your doctor, a health care bill that would have as its primary beneficiaries illegal immigrants.

Of course, that is not a health care bill that anyone in this body is considering. But as we proceeded and pushed back on the misinformation, it became increasingly clear that the health care bill President Obama has outlined, which has been passed by three committees in this House to regulate insurance companies so that they offer real insurance, to extend coverage to 37 million Americans—something good for them but also for those of us with insurance, to reduce our cost shift premium of \$1,100, and a public option to provide competition and choice—that is a health care bill that Americans support, and we must pass.

WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE ENERGY REVOLUTION

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to continue to remind my colleagues about the energy crisis we are

experiencing in our country. While oil is currently trading at some \$69.21 per barrel today, it was at \$147 in July of 2008, when we all remember gas prices at over \$4 a gallon. We must address our energy problems as we continue to address our economic problems. By doing so, we can ensure that while our economy recovers, we will be competitive and secure in the energy sector as well.

As such, I was pleased that my bill, H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009, passed this body last week. I would like to thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle for their support on my first piece of legislation that passed this full body. We must continue to promote energy efficiency, to drill and mine efficiency as we previously drilled for oil and mined coal. We must also enact policies that promote clean energy jobs and the deployment of renewables.

Finally, as my bill did last week, we must continue to invest in research and development to ensure that the United States is at the forefront of the energy revolution.

TOO MANY CRISES IN WASHINGTON

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it is so good to be back on the House floor, doing the people's work. But once again, I hear the word "crisis" used constantly—energy is a crisis, the health care crisis. When will this body deal with the problems in many cases created by government in a way that the American people can have the confidence that, in fact, we view problems as something which gets solved, and it gets solved by having the private sector able to do what it does best and the public sector doing only the minimum necessary?

When I hear my colleagues talk about how we have to make insurance companies do this or that, I recognize that we still don't get it. The crises are created in Washington, and we must change to help solve problems with the American people and not make everything a crisis to justify our pet projects.

WE NEED HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I spent the month of August and the first part of September traveling across my district in upstate New York, listening to my constituents in townhall meetings, tele-townhalls and one-on-one discussions in my office. I've listened to doctors, nurses, hospital administrators in order to build consensus on what my constituents want to see as part of a

health care reform bill. I learned a lot during that time, and I heard stories that would make hearts break regarding denied coverage or loss of coverage because of preexisting conditions and catastrophic illness.

I have promised my constituents that I will keep listening until we have to go to vote on this bill. However, it is crucial to America's financial health that we pass comprehensive health care reform to rid the current system of rampant waste, fraud and abuse, like the inflated costs of prescription drugs. Our economy cannot sustain the high cost of our current system, and it is clear to me that the health care reform in this country is not just the moral imperative for those who don't have health care insurance, but it's also an economic imperative for those that do have health care insurance, to ensure that those individuals can continue the coverage that they have.

OVER 20 PERCENT OF AMERICANS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 64 ARE UNINSURED

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the Joint Economic Committee heard last week some very sobering findings from the latest Census data on health coverage. The number of Americans between the ages of 18 and 64 who are without health insurance increased significantly last year to over 20 percent. More than one of every five nonelderly adults lacked health insurance in 2008. Those millions are one accident, one major illness away from financial ruin. The majority of those uninsured adults without health coverage worked full time or part time.

At the same time, the share of employment-based health insurance declined significantly to 58.5 percent in 2008. The current expensive, inefficient and indifferent system is failing us. Americans deserve better, and we deserve it now.

CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

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

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 15th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act. I am so proud of the light that Congress shined on domestic violence 15 years ago this week, of the work that the dedicated staff and advocates have done for the past decade and a half, and of the bravery shown by victims and their families. For 15 years now, the Office on Violence Against Women has served as a safe haven for families everywhere. Through it, we have provided services and counseling during victims' darkest

hours, emergency and transitional shelter in times of need, and legal assistance to help prosecute perpetrators.

Domestic violence is a scourge in this country, one that recognizes no income brackets, no race, no age. Earlier this week, I joined my constituents in Wisconsin for the fourth annual Brides Walk. We donned wedding dresses and marched through the streets of Milwaukee, calling attention to the violent murder of Gladys Ricart. Gladys was in the process of handing her bouquet to her maid of honor 8 years ago in New York when a former lover burst into the church and killed her in her wedding dress.

Domestic violence is not a private matter. Domestic violence against a partner or a child, whether physical or mental, is not okay. On this anniversary, I urge my colleagues to recommit themselves once again to ending this injustice in our country.

REAL COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE REFORM IS A NECESSITY

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

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, like I've heard from many of my colleagues this afternoon, I also have been listening to constituents in my district throughout the recess and this past weekend about the issue of health care. After church services last Sunday, this is what I heard from one woman who worked for General Motors for 26 years, taking an early retirement a few years ago, thinking she was secure in her retirement: Now she's found that she has lost her investments and her 401(k) because of the GM bankruptcy, and also lost her health care.

She is a breast cancer survivor. Now she is not of the means to buy insurance. No insurance company will insure her because of this preexisting condition. Mr. Speaker, there are too many people in my district and across the country who cannot buy insurance because they are barred because of preexisting conditions. This is one of the many reasons why we need to take action on real comprehensive health care reform.

THE HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION WILL RESULT IN BETTER CARE WITH NO ADDITIONAL COST TO AMERICANS

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, the urgency of health care reform comes from the fact that overall, Americans are living sicker, dying younger, and paying more. Not just the poor, not just those without insurance, not just the unemployed. Overall, Americans are living sicker, dying younger, and paying more than they should or more than residents of other countries do. Just minutes ago I came from a meeting with