

benefits package" for all Americans and then requires all citizens to purchase it. This mandate will be enforced by a massive expansion of the IRS, which will fine those who do not comply two percent of their income. I believe that individuals can best determine for themselves how comprehensive their health care insurance should be, and that Americans have many different needs which cannot be defined by a one-size-fits-all package. Unfortunately, H.R. 3590 sets the stage for mandated, standardized health care.

The provisions in H.R. 3590 will hurt families, businesses, and kill jobs at a time when we can least afford it. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has reported that this health care package will most likely raise premiums for millions of families by \$2,100 per year. It also taxes employers if they cannot provide health insurance and their employees receive federal subsidies—this provision will cause employers to lay off employees due to cost increases, and it discourages companies from hiring low-wage workers who are more likely to qualify for subsidies. Furthermore, Democrats have promised that Americans may keep their health insurance if they like it, but the CBO has predicted that up to 9 million Americans will lose their employer-based coverage. Additionally, the bill imposes an unfunded mandate on Texas by drastically expanding the Medicaid program, costing Texas an estimated \$24.3 billion dollars in the next ten years.

Unfortunately, the reasons why this bill will hurt this country abound. This legislation fails to ensure federal funding is not used for elective abortions. While the President has promised to issue an Executive Order for political effect, the President cannot amend a bill by issuing an order, and the federal courts will enforce what the law says. The bill also fails to include proper verification procedures to ensure illegal immigrants do not receive federal subsidies to purchase health insurance. Furthermore, it lacks protections for 9.2 million military personnel, families and retirees that their health insurance will not be affected. These pitfalls explain why Americans have flooded the DC area in protest, a visual testament of the public opinion on the Democratic health bill, which has become largely opposed throughout the debate. Unfortunately, the Democrats have not listened, and in one of the largest abuses of majority power, have forced their hand on the American public.

My fellow Republicans and I have been willing to work on health care reform from the beginning of this debate. We have introduced numerous proposals emphasizing free market solutions and cost-cutting strategies to make health care insurance readily available and more affordable to Americans. We were present when the President called us to discuss health care reform, but our willingness to start over and work together was ignored by our colleagues. I am disappointed by the events of tonight, but I have not given up and will continue to work for true reform that will lower costs instead of simply shifting those costs onto the government.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROL WILSON-SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Carol Wilson-Smith for her continued service and commitment to the health care field.

Carol Wilson-Smith is currently the Director of Rehabilitation Medicine at Kings County Hospital Center (KCHC). She is responsible for overseeing all operations of the department, managing the budget, and for ensuring that all patients receive the most effective rehabilitation that allows them to maximize their function to be re-integrated into their community. One of the many challenges of her position is adapting to the changing healthcare/managed care requirements as resources dwindle and patients' demands increase.

Carol began her career as a public school teacher specializing in Physical Education. After fourteen years in this role, she changed careers and attained a Physical Therapy degree. She has since practiced as a Physical Therapist at Harlem Hospital and Kings County Hospital, in the New York City Department of Education and in Home Care and moved on to become the Director of Physical Therapy and subsequently of Rehabilitation Medicine, EMG/EEG and Early Intervention at KCHC. Her ultimate goal is to have a positive impact on policy and decision making in the health and wellness field on a larger scale.

She received her secondary education at St. Joseph's Convent in Port-of-Spain, followed by a Teacher's Diploma from the Trinidad and Tobago Government Teachers College. She enrolled in the Physical Therapy program at Mona Campus, University of the West Indies before migrating to the United States of America where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy at Howard University. Ms. Wilson-Smith received a Master of Arts in Motor Learning from Columbia University, and a Master of Public Administration from New York University. Currently she is enrolled in a Doctoral Program at Boston University.

Recently appointed to the New York State Board for Physical Therapy by the Regents of New York City Department of Education, Carol has worked with the Foreign Credentialing Commission for Physical Therapy for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

She is a member of the Trinidad & Tobago Alliance USA, Inc., and is a member of the Board of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association New York Chapter, providing educational scholarships to deserving candidates from both organizations.

As a devoted mother of three children: Naila, Kayode, and Karim she lives by the maxim: To whom much is given, much is expected (Luke 12:48).

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Carol Wilson-Smith.

A TRIBUTE TO NOVA HINDOYAN, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2010

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nova Hindoyan of Pasadena, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women.

Nova came to the United States in 1975 from Damascus, Syria to attend her brother's wedding. While here, she met Garabet Hindoyan, then a student and now the co-owner of Burger Continental Restaurant in Pasadena. They fell in love and married within the same year. They were blessed with a son and two daughters.

Nova has been a long-time dedicated member of the Armenian Relief Society of Western USA, Inc., (ARS-WR) and has held executive positions as Chair of the Armenian Relief Society of Pasadena Chapter "SOSSE", as well as been on the Executive Board of Directors of the ARS-WR as vice chair and chair. She has worked on the ARS Public Relations Committee's special events, Red Cross blood drives, and City of Hope Bone Marrow Registry. Nova has always been an active parent and was on the Parent-Teacher Association while all three of her children were in school.

With her leadership, she was able to raise funds for special projects for ARS, most recently for the Society's Centennial Fund. She was also on the Board of Directors of the Old Town Conservatory School of Music in Pasadena, as well as on the Board of Directors and an active participant of the Lark Musical Society. Nova has sponsored foreign students who have come to enjoy her hospitality while they were in school. Today, Nova is on the Board of the Directors of the ARS Central Executive, while staying active in her chapter in Pasadena.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Nova Hindoyan. The entire community joins me in thanking Nova for the meaningful impact she has had on the 29th Congressional District.

RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3590 and H.R. 4872. Passage of this legislation represents the first step to a government takeover of our health care system. Everyone agrees that our health care system needs to be reformed. Health care in America is too expensive and too many families across America are worried about losing or have already lost their health coverage. Businesses, small and large alike, are struggling to provide health insurance for their employees.

Unfortunately, rather than working on real reforms to improve access to health care for

all Americans, Democrats have chosen to pass a trillion dollar bill that would raise Americans' taxes, create a massive new tax burden, and do little to address the problems in our current health system. The frightening reality for the American taxpayer and anyone who will need health care in the future is that the Democrats are hiding the true costs of these bills and doing so in ways that will be disastrous to our Nation's long-term fiscal health. Instead of creating another absurdly expensive government program, we should work to make health care affordable and accessible for everyone.

I strongly believe that there are a number of measures that all of us, regardless of party affiliation, support that will bring down costs and improve access to care for all Americans. These are not new ideas—they are, however, ideas that are critical to implementing real, affordable and effective health reform. First, we must pass effective medical malpractice reform. We should end the practice of banning the purchase of insurance across State lines, and we should pass legislation to allow small businesses to band together through associations to buy health care coverage. I also support provisions that prohibit insurers from denying coverage to those people with pre-existing conditions. Further, we need to do more as a country to focus on prevention and early intervention. As a dentist, I have seen the benefits of prevention and early intervention. We should be focusing more on how to prevent disease or treat it early when it is most cost-effective and the outcomes are best.

Unfortunately, the Democrats' health reform bill fails to accomplish these goals. I am disappointed that President Obama and Speaker PELOSI have chosen to ignore the clear message from the American people by supporting a massive government takeover of our health system. Americans deserve REAL reform—not a partisan, gimmicky bill that will cost trillions of dollars and do little to improve care.

REGARDING AMERICA'S STRONG BONDS WITH ISRAEL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to reaffirm the strong bonds between Israel and the United States. Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. We share the same values, the same commitment to education, the same commitment to development, the same commitment to helping others.

Israel is situated in a dangerous neighborhood, with many of its neighbors overtly calling for its destruction. I was pleased to hear both President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton reaffirm America's close ties to Israel and our commitment to Israel's security in recent days. And I hope that this signals a desire to reduce the appearance of a rift.

During Vice President BIDEN's recent trip to the Middle East, Palestinian leaders participated in naming a public square for Dalal Mughrabi, the terrorist who led the most devastating attack in Israel's history. In 1978, Mughrabi and her cohorts hijacked a bus and murdered 37 innocent civilians, including 13 children and an American citizen.

Further, during Vice President BIDEN's visit, senior Fatah leaders, including Mahmud Dahlan, called on Muslims to protect the Temple Mount from the Jews, during the dedication of the reconstructed historic Hurva Synagogue located in the Jewish quarter 500 yards from the Western Wall and not on Temple Mount. President Obama has condemned the rioting that resulted, as was appropriate. I hope America will also take a strong stance against Palestinian leaders who foment violence.

As long as Israelis fear a third intifada and worry about the safety of their families, they will be far less likely to participate in peace talks in which they know they will be asked to take risks for peace. Israelis have already taken risks for peace—they withdrew from Lebanon, they withdrew from the Gaza Strip, they signed peace treaties with Jordan and Egypt, they abandoned the city Yamit in the Sinai desert, and they have released hundreds of terrorists, many of whom have had blood on their hands and many of whom have returned to their terrorist activities.

I believe very strongly that both the Palestinians and the Israelis would benefit from a real, lasting peace agreement and I hope talks will soon resume. But they will not resume if the Palestinians believe they will gain more by not talking. And they cannot resume if Israel feels that its existence or its people are being threatened. In previous administrations, there were direct talks. Today, the best we can hope for are proximity talks. I urge the administration to take every possible action to quell the tensions between the U.S. and our great friend, Israel, and to create an atmosphere in which both the Palestinians and the Israelis feel comfortable about resolving their differences.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of maintaining a warm relationship with Israel, our strong ally and good friend.

A TRIBUTE TO AMOTE SIAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Amote Sias, for her commitment and contributions to education and the New York City community.

Amote Sias is the founding principal of Brooklyn Collegiate, a College Board School, located in the Ocean-Hill section of Brownsville, Brooklyn and services 575 students in grades 6 through 12. She is a visionary leader who is passionate about her students and staff having and being the best.

Principal Sias started her career in education as a teacher in 1982 in Nassau County Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) as a Math and Social Studies teacher and department chairwoman. She transferred to New York City Board of Education to be able to give back to her community. From 1985 to 1999, she taught grades kindergarten through twelfth in various subjects including, English, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Computer Science. From 1999 to 2001, she was the Leadership Development Coordinator for Brooklyn and Staten Island High Schools

(BASIS). As the Leadership Development Coordinator, she was responsible for training principals, teachers, students, and parents in the areas of leadership, conflict resolution, cultural competence and team building. Because of her dedication and effective leadership, she advanced on to become the Director of Community Engagement for the new small schools of Brooklyn High Schools Superintendent and New Visions for New Schools Organization.

After the reorganization of the Department of Education in 2003, Principal Sias was asked to take on the position of Project Manager of Region 5 for the creation of new small schools within boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. This responsibility included recruiting and organizing the prospective school teams, training the teams, engaging the community in the process and serving on the committee which recommended the schools to be selected. In the midst of her work, Dr. Kathleen Cashin, Regional Superintendent of Region 5 afforded her the opportunity to become a principal at EBC of Public Service High School in East New York. While working as principal of EBC, Principal Sias wrote a proposal which was approved for the creation of Brooklyn Collegiate, which opened in September 2004. In June of 2008, Brooklyn Collegiate celebrated its first graduating class with seventy four percent of all seniors graduating and eighty-five percent of those students attending college.

Simultaneously working for the Department of Education, Principal Sias has served as an adjunct professor of English at Long Island University Brooklyn Campus for four years and rose the rank of Associate Professor. As an ordained minister since 1999, she pastors The Church without Borders and Assistant Pastor of Provision of Promise Miracle Family Worship Center located at 347 Rockaway Avenue in Brownsville, Brooklyn. She has received numerous awards and honors including "Principal of the Year," 2008–2009. She was the host of "Words of Wisdom for Daily Living" a daily radio program on WLIB, 1190AM. As a well rounded individual, Principal Sias has a passion for the things of God and enjoys traveling, reading and playing sports.

She firmly believes "we can and we will succeed!"

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Amote Sias.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROLE RODENBUCHER, 29TH CONGRES- SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2010

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carole Rodenbucher of Temple City, California. Each year in March, to recognize Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women.

In 1985, when her son Ryan was at Young People's Village Preschool, Carole started volunteering by attending all off-site outings and working on the first ever Camellia Parade float entry. Since 1988, Carole has served as the Parent-Teacher Association, PTA president at Emperor Elementary School and at Temple