

Recently, the London Daily Mail reported the story of Kane Gorny:

Kane was a 22-year-old man who had hip replacement surgery under England's government-run health care system. Afterwards, reports say he was neglected by hospital staff. He was not even given his medications. Kane was immobile. He couldn't even get a drink of water on his own. So Kane called the police and begged them to bring him some water. When the police showed up, they were turned away by hospital staff, who said Kane was a problem patient.

The next day, Kane died of thirst in that government-run hospital in London. The police are investigating.

Madam Speaker, importing government-run health care into America would be unhealthy for everybody. Just ask the family of Kane Gorny, who died of dehydration in that British-run hospital.

And that's just the way it is.

RECLAIMING OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, in 2001 I joined the House in voting for the authorization for the use of military force.

In nearly 9 years, it has become clear that the authorization for the use of military force is being used *carte blanche* for circumventing Congress' role as a coequal branch of government.

Both the Bush and the Obama administrations have cited that the 2001 authorization of the use of military force is justification for the military escalation in Afghanistan, for holding prisoners indefinitely in Guantanamo or at Bagram Air Force Base, and even for mass domestic spying on U.S. citizens in violation of our most basic constitutional principles.

Tomorrow, the House will consider H. Con. Res. 248, a resolution that would require the President to withdraw U.S. Armed Forces from Afghanistan by December 31, 2010.

As U.S. Armed Forces and our allies begin the first in a series of large military operations in Afghanistan, this House must be heard from. We must reclaim our constitutional responsibility and our responsibility to the American people.

EMPOWERMENT

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, in today's Wall Street Journal, Director of the Congressional Budget Office, Douglas Elmendorf, an appointee of Speaker PELOSI, stated, "The U.S. Federal budget deficit is on a trajectory that poses significant economic risks."

According to Mr. Elmendorf, "the U.S. is entering unfamiliar territory in its level of public debt." In fact, a report by the CBO shows that the President's budget drives debt to an alarming 90 percent of our economy by 2020, making the U.S. public debt load one of the highest.

The Federal Government must rein in its spending, and it must cut costs, just as families and businesses all across the 19th Congressional District are doing.

We have two paths on which to set our compass. We can set our path towards empowerment or we can set our path towards entitlement. One offers opportunity and hope; the other offers uncertainties.

America deserves a choice that gets the budget and the economy back on a sustainable path.

THE FIGHT FOR JOBS ON MAIN STREET

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

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, within weeks in my district, we will be upon the summer construction season.

Construction is not a Democrat idea or a Republican idea. It's just something we need to do to rebuild America. In fact, we'd be well on our way if it weren't for the gigantic snowstorms having set back the building season. We have a chance across the aisle, in a short period of time, to address the issue of construction.

For my nieces and nephews, summer may just mean time off from school, but for many of our small businesses around the country, it means a time to gear up. Many have taken losses year after year, quarter after quarter, in the hopes that this year will be the time we can get back on top.

If housing starts are not going to pick up in time, we know we can build other things. We can build infrastructure. We can retrofit existing building stock. These are good jobs that rebuild the competitive advantage of this country.

This town is too paralyzed by partisanship. We have an opportunity to rise above that and to say, We will meet this summer construction season. We will not flirt with a double-dip recession just as we are starting to pull out of it. These are good commonsense ideas that make sense back on Main Street. That's what we need to be fighting for here.

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SUPPORT SPENDING LIMIT AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, Federal spending is out of control, and the

American people know it. Our Nation is facing a fiscal crisis of epic proportions. In the past 5 years, Federal spending has climbed from a historic average of 20 percent of the American economy to nearly 25 percent today, and it is rising.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the first 5 months of this fiscal year, the Federal Government ran a deficit of \$655 billion, keeping the country on track for a record \$1.6 trillion deficit this year.

After years of trying to rein in Federal spending under Republican and Democrat administrations, the American people want fiscal discipline and they want new ideas. That is why Congressmen JEB HENSARLING, JOHN CAMPBELL, and I introduced the Spending Limit Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Under our amendment, absent a declaration of war or a two-thirds vote in the Congress, Congress would be required to adhere to its historic percentage of the economy.

For the last 60 years, we have only taken 20 cents on the American dollar out of this economy. It is time we put that limit in the Constitution of the United States. If we fail to act, our children will be less free, less prosperous, and less secure. It is time for a spending limit amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

AMERICANS SAY MEDIA ARE BIASED

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, more than seven in ten Americans say that news sources are biased, according to a recent survey by the Pew Research Center. This opinion is consistent across party lines. Eight in ten Republicans say the news is slanted, as do two-thirds of the Democrats and three-quarters of the Independents. Not surprisingly, this is the fifth recent poll that has found Americans don't trust the media.

The reason is simple: On important issues like job creation, government spending, treatment of terrorists, and the Senate reconciliation procedure, the national media present the news from a liberal point of view.

If the media wants to restore Americans' trust, they should report all the facts, not just one side.

EDITORIALS ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA CONDEMN PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN

(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. Madam Speaker, the President's recent budget proposal to Congress kills funding for Yucca Mountain. Without a safe and secure location like Yucca Mountain, nuclear energy development in America cannot progress.

Newspaper editorials throughout South Carolina have condemned the President's unilateral move. Last year, the Charleston Post and Courier blasted the President's decision as "breath-takingly irresponsible."

The Aiken Standard from February 17 says that the "president's lack of faith in using Yucca Mountain for nuclear waste sends a mixed signal to Americans."

The Greenville News on February 21 said that "the Obama administration has broken a long-standing Federal promise to deal with the Nation's nuclear waste."

And in the Lexington County Chronicle on March 4, Mark Bellune editorialized, "liberals would stick us with nuclear waste."

I urge Congress and the administration to put politics aside on this issue that has serious implications for America's energy future and national security from terrorist attacks.

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

NASA STOPPING DREAMS FROM BECOMING A REALITY

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, NASA recently announced and unveiled a new interactive computer simulation that allows kids to pretend to be going to the space station, the Moon, Mars and beyond. They said it would excite young people.

Sometimes, though, our new NASA administrators are too shy. What they failed to announce is that also the preliminary design review on Constellation was finished successfully, which means that after exhaustive scientific and technical review, there are no technical issues that can stop Constellation from doing that for which it was designed, to replace the space shuttle with a flight capacity that is 10 times safer than the space shuttle.

You see, Madam Speaker, it is nice to come up with computer games to inspire kids, but it is also cruel to stop the only programs that can make those dreams a reality. There is nothing technically that can stop Constellation from fulfilling its mission, except politics. Thanks, NASA.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST ALAN N. DIKCIS

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise this afternoon to honor a true American hero, U.S. Army Specialist Alan N. Dikcis, a native of Wheatfield, New York. Sadly, on March 5, while serving his second tour of duty, Specialist Dikcis lost his life when he was struck by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan.

Specialist Dikcis enlisted in the Army shortly after graduating from Niagara-Wheatfield High School in 2006 and had hoped to spend his career serving his country.

He enjoyed spending time outside, whether it was going for a hike or riding on his motorcycle or his four-wheeler, and he enjoyed spending time with those he loved, his family and his friends. As Specialist Dikcis' stepmother recently said, "Alan loved being in the Army. He was proud of his work. He made us proud. He made his daughter proud."

I ask that the House join me in thanking Specialist Dikcis for his honorable service to our great Nation, and I extend our condolences to his family and friends, who had Alan taken from them far too soon.

TIME FOR CONGRESS TO LISTEN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, the 111th Congress is starting its 10th week of this session, and what have we done to help the American family and our small business men and women? Absolutely nothing, Madam Speaker. Absolutely nothing.

We have not passed any legislation that would create jobs, that would lower health care costs, or jump-start our struggling economy. Instead, congressional leaders continue to show their arrogance, ignorance, and incompetence by ramming through job-killing legislation that will increase taxes and increase uncertainty for families and businesses.

Madam Speaker, 15 million Americans are without jobs. Yet Democratic leaders are still forcing their unpopular and unconstitutional health care mandates, and implementing policies that will actually discourage job growth.

The American people want Washington to start over. It is time for congressional leaders to listen to the American people and work on real issues and real solutions.

AMERICAN PEOPLE DON'T WANT CURRENT HEALTH CARE BILL

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, Democrats are once again rushing to meet an artificial deadline to pass their government takeover of our Nation's health care system, and it is clear that the majority of the American people don't want this bill.

Republicans have been clear about why reforms being proposed should be scrapped. This proposal will increase costs, decrease quality, and decrease access to care for the vast majority of Americans. I can say this unequivocally

as a physician and as a Tennessee resident who has experienced TennCare, our State Medicaid program, firsthand. Small businesses that are dealing with the worst recession in decades will have to lay off workers and cut back on wages to deal with the new mandates.

The end result is what we are dealing with in Tennessee right now: rationed care. To meet its budget, the State is limiting TennCare patients to eight visits per year to a physician and \$10,000 paid to providers, no matter what the costs.

While we can't make our State Medicaid program work as is, Democrats in Congress want to expand it. In the end, what is happening in Tennessee will happen to everyone in America, and that is the wrong solution.

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 and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Recorded votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

NATIONAL ROBOTICS WEEK

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1055), supporting the designation of National Robotics Week as an annual event.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1055

Whereas the United States has the largest number of academic and research organizations with dedicated programs focused on the advancement of robotics technology;

Whereas robotics has matured into an all-encompassing and enabling technology that, as a pillar of 21st century American innovation, is positioned to fuel a broad array of next generation products and applications, transform our society, and become as ubiquitous over the next several decades as desktop and mobile computing technology is today;

Whereas the emerging market for service robotics in various sectors, including healthcare, national defense, homeland security, energy, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, agriculture, education, consumer goods, and others, is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of nearly 20 percent over the next few years to become a worldwide \$27 billion industry;

Whereas robotics is a critical technology capable in the near term of contributing to the economic recovery by creating new jobs, increasing productivity, improving quality, and increasing worker safety, and equally capable over time of addressing the longer term labor and healthcare issues expected to result from the 40 percent increase in number of the Nation's elderly over the next 20 years;