

House of Representatives, our committee sent a request to the White House weeks ago for information regarding the secret deals that were cut in May and June of last year. This letter was signed by Chairman WAXMAN and Ranking Member BARTON, and as of today, no response.

Heather Higgins and Kelly Anne Conway, writing in today's Wall Street Journal, talked about, no matter the demographic group that you look at, men, women, old, young, independents, dramatic pluralities say that if this legislation doesn't pass, they will be relieved.

We ought to listen to the American people on this one.

#### DESPITE MEDIA'S SPIN, AMERICANS OPPOSE HEALTH CARE PLAN

(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, in a recent Washington Post op-ed, here is what two Democratic pollsters had to say about the media's spin on the administration's health care proposal:

"Nothing had been more disconcerting than to watch Democratic politicians and their media supporters deceive themselves into believing that the public favors the Democrats' current health care plan.

"A solid majority of Americans opposes the massive health reform plan. Many more Americans believe the legislation will worsen their health care, cost them more personally, and add significantly to the national deficit.

"Never in our experience as pollsters can we recall such self-deluding misconstruction of survey data."

Madam Speaker, despite the media spin, the American people are sending a clear message about health care: Congress should start over and get it right.

#### OBAMA CARE

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, my Dad always told me, "Your friends are the people who tell you what you need to know, not what you want to hear."

In August, the American people flooded town hall meetings and told their representatives to vote "no" on Obama care. The Speaker called them extremists. In November, voters in Virginia and New Jersey elected Republican governors in States President Obama had carried one year earlier. The White House said it was due to local issues. And in January, the voters of Massachusetts elected a Republican to the United States Senate for the first time in 38 years. Senate Democrats said it was because they had nominated a poor candidate.

As we approach the vote on Obama care, I urge my colleagues on the other

side of the aisle to ignore the Speaker, ignore the President, and ignore the Democrats in the Senate. Just listen to your friends, the voters of America, who oppose this \$1 trillion, 2,700 page health care monstrosity, and then vote "no." In November, you will be glad you did.

#### NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, National Agriculture Week is dedicated to celebrating the impact agriculture has on our Nation and our everyday lives.

Agricultural products are America's number one export, and about 17 percent of raw U.S. agriculture products are exported yearly valued at over \$43 billion. The industry generates 20 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product, and one-fourth of the world's beef and nearly one-fifth of the world's grain, milk, and eggs are produced in the United States.

Nebraska has 47,000 farms and ranches, with many located in the Third District. I am proud to represent a district which truly embodies the spirit of this celebration, and I am proud to be a co-chair of the Congressional Rural Caucus, a bipartisan group of Members who work together to address the challenges facing our Nation's agriculture producers.

Agriculture is integral to our Nation, and I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating its contribution.

#### 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.

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

#### RECOGNIZING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1145) recognizing the University of Arizona's 125 years of dedication to excellence in higher education, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1145

Whereas the University of Arizona was authorized by Arizona's 13th Territorial Assembly on March 12, 1885;

Whereas the University of Arizona is the flagship university of the State of Arizona and, true to its land-grant heritage, is dedi-

cated to building a better Arizona through access, quality, and discovery;

Whereas classes at the University of Arizona first met in 1891 with 32 students in Old Main, the first building constructed on campus;

Whereas the University of Arizona is Arizona's only member of the prestigious 62-member Association of American Universities;

Whereas the University of Arizona is committed to an accessible, quality education for all, maintaining the third lowest tuition rate of any public university among the Association of American Universities;

Whereas the University of Arizona is ranked No. 15 among public universities by the National Science Foundation for research and development;

Whereas the University of Arizona offers 122 undergraduate degrees, 217 graduate programs, and 3 professional schools including pharmacy, medicine, and law;

Whereas the University of Arizona has over 225,000 alumni in all 50 States and across the world, including a former U.S. Secretary of the Interior and a former U.S. Surgeon General;

Whereas the University of Arizona is recognized as an international leader in research and innovation in many fields including optics, water research, and astronomy;

Whereas the University of Arizona has achieved remarkable success in athletics, winning 20 national championships, including 8 softball titles and the 1997 men's basketball title;

Whereas University of Arizona students have consistently answered the call to service as memorialized by the clock tower of the Student Union Memorial Center, home to a bell rescued from the USS Arizona after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941;

Whereas the University of Arizona played a leading role in NASA's Phoenix Mars Mission, leading to the discovery of water on Mars and furthering the understanding of the Martian condition using advanced robotics; and

Whereas the University of Arizona is dedicated to a more sustainable energy future as reflected in its selection to and achievement in the U.S. Department of Energy's distinguished Solar Decathlon; Now, therefore, be it—

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives

(1) recognizes the University of Arizona for 125 years of dedication to excellence in higher education;

(2) congratulates the University of Arizona on the occasion of its 125th anniversary, and

(3) expresses thanks to the University of Arizona for its contribution to the betterment of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1145 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H. Res. 1145, which recognizes the 125th anniversary of the University of Arizona.

The University of Arizona attained its charter on March 12, 1891, with the authorization of Arizona's 13th Territorial Assembly. The mission of this new university focused on building a better Arizona through access, quality, and self-discovery. The university's first day of classes commenced on October 1, 1891, with a small group of 32 students from the surrounding region. The school instantly became a symbol of pride for Tucson, Arizona.

From these humble beginnings, the University of Arizona has grown into one of the most prominent universities in the country. The student body contains over 36,000 students, including almost 7,000 graduate students. Students are enrolled in 122 undergraduate degree programs, 217 graduate programs, and three professional schools.

The University of Arizona has gained national accolades for its breakthroughs in science and technology. The university's scientific research and development program, ranked 15th in the Nation by the National Science Foundation, played a leading role in NASA's Phoenix Mars Mission, which led to greater understanding of the red planet.

For all these accomplishments, the University of Arizona is also known for its athletic dominance. The 500 student athletes of the University of Arizona compete in over 19 Division I sports, winning 20 national championships, 37 Pacific Ten titles, including a men's national basketball championship in 1997, and eight softball national titles.

This year, the University of Arizona will celebrate 125 years of providing excellence in education and athletics, cultivating young men and women to become stewards of their community and leaders of the Nation.

Madam Speaker, once again I express my support of the University of Arizona, and wish it and its students future success in all their endeavors. And I thank Representative GIFFORDS for bringing this bill forward. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1145, recognizing the University of Arizona's 125 years of dedication to excellence in higher education.

The University of Arizona, located in Tucson, Arizona, was founded in 1885, and first opened its doors to students in 1891. Thirty-two students applied for the first semester, but only six were admitted to the freshman class. The remaining 26 students were enrolled in a specially established prep school, since there were no high schools in the area.

Today, the University of Arizona has 29,719 undergraduate students, 6,962 graduate students, and 1,376 professional and medical students. The uni-

versity is ranked number 16 among all public universities by the National Science Foundation. The university has a three-fold commitment to education, research, and community service, and offers more than 300 undergraduate degrees through 20 colleges and 11 schools.

The university boasts excellent academic programs, but its students also excel in athletics. The university houses 18 NCAA athletic teams. The University of Arizona Wildcats basketball team has reached the NCAA tournament for the last 25 consecutive years.

The women's softball team is among the top programs in the country, and has won eight Women's College World Series.

The University of Arizona is designated as both a land-grant and space-grant institution, and research conducted at the university has led to advances such as the development of Pima cotton and new artificial hearts, and has helped in the building of the largest telescopes in the world. The mission of the university is "to discover, educate, serve, and inspire," and the accomplishments of its students reflect this.

I extend my congratulations to the University of Arizona for 125 years of excellence in higher education, and wish all of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni continued success. I would ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and I thank the gentlelady from Hawaii for being the manager of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. I join in urging all my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1145, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

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#### CONGRATULATING WINNERS OF VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1170) congratulating the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1170

Whereas the Voice of Democracy (VOD) scholarship program is an audio-essay con-

test for high school students in grades 9 through 12 that annually provides more than \$3,000,000 in scholarships;

Whereas the Voice of Democracy program is designed to foster patriotism by allowing students the opportunity to voice their opinion in a 3- to 5-minute audio essay based on an annual theme;

Whereas the winners of the 2010 Voice of Democracy contest are selected based on the originality, content, and delivery of their audio essay;

Whereas the Veterans of Foreign Wars has sponsored the Voice of Democracy scholarship program since 1947 and has encouraged students to express patriotism since that time;

Whereas the Voice of Democracy program is closely associated with the Patriots Pen program, a youth-essay writing contest for students in grades 6 through 8;

Whereas the 2009–2010 Voice of Democracy theme is "Does America still have heroes?";

Whereas more than 50,000 American students across the world participated in the Voice of Democracy competition for the 2009–2010 school year; and

Whereas Madison Mullen, Anthony Zendejas IV, and Lena Savell were named the first, second, and third place winners of the 2009–2010 Voice of Democracy scholarship program: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives congratulates the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1170 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to congratulate the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program. The Voice of Democracy scholarship program was originally created in 1947 and now is an audio essay contest for high school students in grades nine through twelve that annually provides more than \$3 million in scholarships. The winners are high school students from different parts of the country who clearly articulated and creatively presented American democratic values in a national scholarship competition. The first-place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship that is paid directly to the recipient's American university, college, vocational, or technical school.

Every year, thousands of students participate in the Voice of Democracy scholarship competition. With last year's theme, "Does America still have Heroes?" this competition makes democracy come alive and helps students connect their real-world experience to contemporary issues and events. This type of learning is important not only