

take a vote on the issues of the day. And then the people who sent them here—the voters—could hold them accountable for the votes they cast here in this Chamber and in the other body across the way.

It would be inconceivable to them that this House would deem a bill passed without taking a direct vote up-or-down on the substance of the matter so that the voters back home could hold them accountable, and yet that is exactly the direction that this leadership tries to take the House today.

The American people already do not trust this institution. They do not believe that we are in touch with them and listening to them. The intentions of the leadership of this House will only carry those suspicions further and further betray the trust that American people should have in their elected representatives.

We should start over and do it again.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(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, I don't think the American people can be any clearer. They do not want this government-run health care bill that the President and leaders in this Congress are trying to ram down their throats. The leadership in this House have declared that socialized health care will become law without taking a vote on the actual bill. They are forcing this reconciliation ruse.

It's a simple answer. This bill contains billions of new taxes, kills jobs, provides for taxpayer-funded abortions, and places an enormous debt on the shoulders of our children and grandchildren. The fact is, many Democrats in Congress do not like this bill any more than the American people. They will be forced to vote for it with a promise that it will be fixed later, but we all know that this is an empty promise. It is a reconciliation to nowhere.

The Democrats may control Washington, but the American people still control this country. I urge all of my colleagues to stand up for your constituents and vote "no" on this scam.

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HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam Speaker, analysts tell us that the Medicare system in this country will be bankrupt in 7 years and that Social Security and Medicaid are not far behind. What that means is we can't pay for the entitlements we've got.

So what does this health care bill do? It adds more entitlements. It's like

learning that you can't pay the mortgage on your house and buying a second one and five more cars. Americans wouldn't do that, but President Obama and the Democrats in this House are going to. We can't pay for the entitlements we've got. Let's pay for them first before we add new ones.

Unfortunately, because of the actions of this House, America is going bankrupt, and this health bill will hasten that bankruptcy. Vote "no" and kill this bill.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, we have all seen the television program "Deal or No Deal" where you look at this case and you decide whether you want that case or you don't want the case and take the deal or not take the deal. Well, that's what we have, except this time, the Speaker of the House is saying that there may not even be a case, we don't want you to know what's in the case, we just want you to vote for this self-executing rule so that whatever happens happens.

Well, that self-executing rule, Madam Speaker, is well named, because the people that vote for it are probably going to be victims of their own execution at the next congressional election.

Let's have an up-or-down vote, just as the President has suggested, on a real bill, and make people accountable in their congressional districts whether they are for this massive health care bill, a government takeover of health care, or whether they want to keep the current system of private markets, private initiative and the market-based health care system.

Do not make us vote on the self-executing rule.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. I have sent or received nearly 750,000 letters and emails from my office and have held 225 constituent town hall meetings. I have a pretty good idea why my constituents are upset about this health care bill. They were promised that it wouldn't tax health care, but it does. They were promised that it wouldn't mandate health care, but it does. They were promised it wouldn't raise taxes on people with incomes less than \$250,000, but it does. You can only pay for this by doing some manipulation of taking \$52 billion from Social Security and \$72 billion from long-term health care. And it doesn't pay doctors to the tune of \$371 billion. It doesn't allow doctors to volunteer at community health centers. It doesn't reduce infection rates at hospitals. And it

doesn't deal with the \$700 billion of waste in health care that we've got to address.

You don't reform health care by demonizing insurance companies, drug companies and doctors. And Americans are saying we've got to reform health care, not just continue to pass bills that are facades to real health reform. And that's why they're mad as hell.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, my colleagues, the American people, and I think myself would like to see health care reform. There is a lot of room for improvement. There are a lot of people that don't have coverage or access to affordable health care.

Most of the people I talk to want their premiums down if they do have insurance. If you talk to Americans, what do they want now? They want jobs, and they want the economy expanded so people can even get their own health care. What they also want is a bipartisan effort on behalf of Congress to get these things done.

Instead, what they've got in all of the proposals before us is a proposal to cut Medicare and to dramatically increase taxes. What they wanted was some transparency in this process and openness. Instead, they are getting a closed-door deal and a back-door deal that is not transparent, not open to bipartisanship, imposes taxes on all Americans and, in fact, cuts Medicare for our poorest and oldest citizens. They just don't get it.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I think most of you all know that the movie "Alice in Wonderland" opened in a theater near you just this last week. It's in three dimensions. And it obviously has inspired our Democratic friends in an effort to explain what is going on in this make-believe world they have created up here. There is an exchange in that "Through the Looking Glass" where Humpty Dumpty is talking to Alice. And Humpty Dumpty says, When I use a word, it means exactly what I choose it to mean, neither more nor less. But Alice asks the insightful question, Well, can you really make words mean so many different things?

And I think that is the question the American people are asking. Alice figured out that Humpty Dumpty was just making words mean what he wanted them to mean. And I think the American people are figuring out that the Democrats are just making up words like "vote" and then giving it a different meaning. People are smarter

than that. And I think there's a better way.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I really get a kick out of the Speaker. She thinks the American people don't get what's going on, but they do. The overwhelming majority of Americans don't want this, and they know that she's playing around with the rules here in the House.

And so I just want to make one little statement to the Speaker if she is paying attention. Abraham Lincoln, who was a Member of this body a long time ago, said, You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

And if those people on that side of the aisle vote for this turkey, they're going to pay in November.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, one of my favorite things to do is go to a local high school and talk to government classes. For the past 10 years that I've been doing this, I have always told them, there are certain things that are done in the House that are there to protect the minority. One is during appropriation bills: any Member can bring any amendment to the floor on anything they want to that is germane to the bill, and the leadership can't stop them, even their own party or the other party.

This past year, I wasn't able to say that anymore because for the first time in the history of this institution, every appropriation bill that came to the floor was brought under a closed rule so only the amendments that the majority wanted to be offered could be offered.

Something similar is happening here. All of us have told classes that we have taught that your history books are right, if a bill passes the House and a different bill passes the Senate, the House will have to vote on it again. But here we're being told, no, you don't have to do that anymore. You can deem it passed. It just magically appears back in the Senate without having a vote here in the House.

Our institution, this institution, the people's institution, deserves better than that.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to this

piece of legislation. This is a government takeover of health care. Over the last few months, the American people have voiced their opposition to this bill loud and clear. They know that this bill is being pushed with false promises and backroom deals, and they have had enough. This bill will put the American Government between patients and their doctors. It's going to raise taxes and increase regulations. It will hurt small business owners, the very people who create 7 out of every 10 jobs in this country, by hitting them with impossible mandates.

Make no mistake: this bill will destroy jobs in this country and freeze our economic recovery.

Madam Speaker, Americans know that the answer to the problems in our health care system is not bigger government and more bureaucrats. The answer is more competition and better choices. My colleagues and I have introduced several commonsense reform pieces, but they have been ignored by the majority. It's not too late to start over on legislation that will increase access for all Americans and help control costs. However, this bill is not the answer. I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, just last week I was listening to the Speaker talk about health care. She said—and I had to actually look it up in the transcripts because I couldn't believe what I heard—Madam Speaker, Speaker PELOSI said, "We have to pass it so you can see what's in it." Well, she was wrong then, and she is wrong now. The Democratic majority in this people's House is not listening to the people. Americans do not want this bill.

How do we know this? Well, because in my own town halls last summer, which I had in Bakersfield, California, and Paso Robles, more than 5,000 constituents turned out just to say that. And it is not just because they don't know what's in the bill. They get it. They don't like it. They don't like the political payoffs, the job-killing tax hikes, the huge cuts in Medicare; and most of all, they don't like Washington running their health care.

Maybe that's why this House Democratic majority is poised to use the parliamentary procedure to pass this bill without an actual vote. By doing this, the House majority will prove, once again, they are not listening. It's time for a new direction. Scrap the bill and start over.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(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, here are 10 reasons why the administration's health bill makes no sense according to Investor's Business Daily. Number one, the people don't want it. In fact, the majority of Americans are opposed to it. Two, doctors don't want it. Three, people are happy with the health care they have. Four, it doesn't cover the people they set out to cover. Five, costs will go up, not down. Six, real cost controls are nowhere to be found. Seven, insurance premiums will rise, not fall. Eight, Medicare is already bankrupting us. Nine, medical care will also deteriorate. And, ten, rationing of care is inevitable.

Madam Speaker, the conclusion is clear: Congress should start over and get it right.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, if the Democrats are so proud of the health care bill, why the subterfuge? Speaker PELOSI said, If we can't cross the fence, we will pole vault over it. We will tunnel under it, we will break through it. In other words, they are going to subvert the legislative process.

If they are so proud of the health care bill, why the Cornhusker kickback? Why the Louisiana purchase? Why the Gator aid? Why the hospital for the folks in Connecticut? Why all the other special interest bills? And if they are so proud, why not post it on the Web page? But, in fact, here is what the Speaker said. These are NANCY PELOSI's words: "We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what's in it." In other words, the height of D.C. arrogance and Beltway we-know-best.

I call on fair-minded Democrats to join me in denouncing this process and standing up for transparent, fair, and open government. Let's have a bill that comes to the floor in which amendments are allowed and one that has come through the committee process.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Speaker, the American people have spoken loud and clear on this issue as recently as the Massachusetts election. They want health care reform, but they reject this bill. This administration and the Democrat majority have been tone deaf to this message. Speaker PELOSI just said, "We need to pass this bill to see what's in it."

I don't quite understand what that really means. But I will tell you what's in this bill: there's over \$500 billion in tax increases, a cut to Medicare by \$500 billion, a new form of government-run