

Mr. GARAMENDI. Twenty-three million jobs were created during that period of time.

Excuse me. Do you remember the statistics for the Bush, George W. Bush years?

Mr. ANDREWS. I do. For every private-sector job created during the George W. Bush years, during the Clinton years we created 140. Let me say that again. For every one private-sector job that the Bush administration with its policies created, 140 were created during the Clinton administration.

Now, the reason I make this point is that the same rhetoric that we're hearing this weekend, that these taxes which affect the top 3 or 4 percent of people in America, are going to have a catastrophic effect on jobs, this is an echo chamber.

One other quote I want to read you again about the 1993 plan: "This plan puts the economy in the gutter. If it was to work, then I would have to become a Democrat." The person who said that was former Representative John Kasich, a very dear friend of mine, budget chairman, who unfortunately—depending on how you look at it—is not a Democrat; he's still a Republican, even though it did not put the economy in the gutter; it created 23 million new jobs.

So we will hear this tired old refrain this weekend, but the facts dictate differently.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I want to take up another subject that you broached earlier in the conversation, and that is of seniors.

The senior population spent the good part of the summer being totally scared, frightened, purposely so, with a pack of incorrect, or shall I just call them lies. Death panels, Medicare is going to be cut, other things were put out there to scare seniors into opposing this. When in fact—and you went through some of this; I want you to drive this home—when in fact, this piece of legislation that we will vote on Sunday strengthens the Medicare program and provides significant benefits and increases.

So, please.

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank the gentleman again.

What does that plan mean for seniors? It means no cuts in benefits for any senior. It means an expansion of benefits to cover more prescription drugs as well as preventative care visits. It means that the life of the Medicare trust fund will be extended for 7 or 8 more years, and it emphatically does not mean that any senior, any disabled person, will ever be denied coverage because of their age or disability. It's not the truth.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And you cited the specific code sections, and you also cited the fact that this will reduce the deficit of America over the next 10 years by some \$300 billion.

Mr. ANDREWS. The parties do have a record on entitlement health care

spending. The erstwhile majority increased health care entitlements by \$800 billion in deficit spending. We're going to decrease it by \$1.2 trillion. That's a \$2 trillion difference between the rhetoric of the other side and the facts of this bill.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And that was the Medicare Part D.

Thank you very much, Mr. ANDREWS.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. It's my privilege to be recognized here on the floor and address you as we watch this Nation lurch forever forward toward their version of socialized medicine.

It's astonishing to me to think that the people on the other side of the aisle who have spoken in the previous hour could even stand and make the statement that we are going to put 30 million more people onto the insured rolls and somehow we're going to cut spending and reduce the deficit. How in the world could that be? We're going to ensure 30 million more people for less money than we ensure the people we have today? Are we going to go back to President Obama's mathematical logic that seemed to have gotten him elected into office when he and Hillary Clinton vied with each other on who had the best government-run health care plan? When President Obama said—and he said consistently and continually—We spend too much money on health care. We have to fix that.

He said as the President of the United States that we're in an economic downturn, an economic crisis, and we can't fix the crisis of our downward spiraling economy unless we first fix health care.

Mr. Speaker, do you remember that? The astonishing statement that the solution to our economic downward spiral is socialized medicine? That is what came out of our President's mouth.

So we have to first fix this health care. And what's wrong with health care? According to the President, we spend too much money. Now, I don't necessarily quibble with that particular statement. We spend too much money on health care. I just disagree on where that too much money goes.

But he argued that we spend too much on health care. We have to fix it in order to fix the economy. And what's his fix? All of the way through his political history up until the reality of being President of the United States was a single-payer plan. The Federal Government writes the check for everybody's health care in America. That's been the President's solution all along. It's clear. It's as clear as his statement eight times on national TV that there were going to be C-SPAN negotiations over health care.

But the President's logic was, and apparently remains, the economy is in a

crisis, the problem with the economy is health care, the only fix for health care is to turn it into socialized medicine because we spend too much money. And we've heard these gentlemen say, We're going to save money. We're going to save \$300 billion, and it's going to be trillions of dollars by giving 30 million more people a health insurance policy that is paid for by the taxpayers in America. Now, how can they do that?

First I need to dispatch this thing of President Obama's statement that we can fix the economy by fixing health care. I never agreed with that. I always believed that our economic problems were too much spending, too much irresponsibility, too many Federal guarantees. We had the implicit guarantee that the Federal Government would prop up these businesses that are, quote, "too big to be allowed to fail." Now "too big to fail." And so, that was implicit.

And those big businesses took great risks to grow against their other competition that was taking great risk, and the economy was on the verge of collapsing, and that is when we became deemed "too big to fail," and the Federal Government dropped in and bailed them out with our tax dollars. Treasury dollars that are just simply advanced, appropriations that were approved by this Congress in the form of \$700 billion dollars in TARP funding, \$787 billion in an economic stimulus plan—none of which the American people in anywhere near a majority believed actually worked.

□ 2130

So the free enterprise system was sacrificed off for the nationalization of the huge entities in our Federal Government. And the President continued to insist, even though he had the brilliant Tim Geithner there as the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, too smart to be allowed not to be confirmed, to help bail out these businesses that are too big to be allowed to fail, and the only way we can fix all these economic problems is to first fix health care because we spend too much money on it. And so the President of the United States argues, well, here is a solution for everything: we will just spend a lot more money on health care in America.

In terms of numbers that we have seen from Senator JUDD GREGG, say that when you look at the 10 years after, the first full 10 years, \$2.5 trillion, the President has repeatedly made the breathtaking statement that we want to spend all of this extra money in the trillions of dollars on health care in order to fix the economy that we can't fix without, and the problem with spending too much money is solved with spending a lot more money.

That's the President's position. And any third grader can figure that out, Mr. Speaker. That position could not be sustained in a third grade logic class. I don't think they actually have logic classes in third grade, but it couldn't be sustained.

And so we went from this breath-taking position of spending a lot more money on health care to solve all the Nation's woes on down to, well, the problem really is that we don't have enough competition among insurance companies. So the President said, let's create a Federal health insurance company to compete against the privates, and that way we will have competition that it will drive done the costs. I don't think the President ever counted the private health insurance companies, 1,300 of them, 100,000 public health insurance varieties; and still the President wanted 1,301 health insurance companies and 100,000 and about a dozen health insurance policies. And that was going to solve all the problems, Mr. Speaker.

So we see that the massive, multi-trillion dollar Federal takeover of the management and of the approval of everybody's health insurance in America is based upon two flawed premises. I wonder what would happen if President Obama were sitting in the square in Athens and he had to sit between Socrates and Plato, and he would make the pitch we're going to solve the problem of spending too much money by spending a lot more, and we're going to solve the problem of not enough competition in 1,300 companies by adding one more company with 1,301. Those two fellows would have just eviscerated him with clearest logic of chopping his axiom down and tossing it off into the Aegean Sea.

But, instead, we are so polite in this country. We aren't willing to say that these premises don't even make the third grade level. And now here we are, a Nation that has seen its President use all the leverage possible to force the situation where we are, even though, even though it was all Speaker PELOSI could do to squeeze the votes to pass the first version of this bill. Even though she has 41 votes to burn when this happened, Speaker PELOSI didn't have any to burn when it was over.

It barely, barely passed the House. The Senate, they had no votes to spare, and on Christmas Eve that bitter pill was dropped into our stocking by HARRY REID and company over in the Senate. And most folks thought that this thing would become law, until SCOTT BROWN was elected to the United States Senate. And when that happened, it changed the whole dynamics, Mr. Speaker.

But here we are today, the President of the United States doesn't hear "no." He doesn't hear that the American people have stood up and screamed, no, don't spend any more money. You poured trillions in this economic stimulus plan and in the TARP funding, and what do we have to show for it? A declining economy and a growing unemployment and 15.4 million people on unemployment, a mismanaged economy with a government that has taken over three large investment banks, AIG, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, General Motors and Chrysler and given us a couple

of trillion dollars' worth of wild spending programs.

And the President had told us in a meeting a year ago February that Franklin Delano Roosevelt lost his nerve. He should have spent a lot more money. If FDR had spent a lot more money in the late thirties, then this Keynesian economy would have turned around, and it would have recovered before World War II came along.

That was an experiment that is called the Great Depression. And the New Deal failed throughout the thirties. And the stock market that crashed in October of 1929, even though we had World War II, even though we had the Korean war, did not recover to the place where it was in October of 1929 until Franklin Delano Roosevelt had been passed away for 9 years. 1954 is when the Dow Jones Industrial Average caught up to where it was in 1929.

And this President doesn't learn this lesson from history. If you borrow money, if you raise taxes, if you spend that money with government, you're competing against the private sector. And, necessarily, if government spends money, they can't spend money unless they first take it from somebody else; and when they take it from somebody else, they are borrowing the investment capital away. They are taking it away. They are taxing investment capital. There would be a whole row of entrepreneurs out here, Mr. Speaker, that maybe have a little capital, and they have a way to borrow some money, and they have an idea about expanding an existing business or creating a new one, businesses hire people and they create careers and jobs.

The Federal Government raises taxes and dips into the capital base and raises the cost of that capital because of the higher taxes, and that diminishes the jobs in the private sector. It might create new government jobs in the public sector, but it diminishes them in the private sector.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I cannot be convinced that our President of the United States, he may understand, but I can't be convinced that he believes that there is a difference in this economy between government employment and private sector employment.

The private sector is the sector that creates the wealth. The government is the burden on the wealth creators. If you have a career, if you're an entrepreneur, if you have a business, and if you employ people, and the Federal Government raises taxes and raises the cost of the capital, it takes away your ability to generate more revenue for expanding more careers and jobs or for paying taxes. And eventually if the Federal Government swallows up all sectors of the economy just to macro this and fast forward it to where I think even the people on this side of the aisle could understand, if the government runs everything, there is nothing left to tax except government. That's where this country is going.

I have looked on the Progressives' Web site. They are linked in with the

Democratic Socialists of America. Their Web site used to be managed by the same people. It says on there they want to nationalize the Fortune 500 companies. They want to take them over. They want to nationalize the oil refineries business. That was offered by MAURICE HINCHEY of New York. They want to nationalize the energy industry in America. That was offered by MAXINE WATERS of California. They are both members of the Progressive Caucus. The Progressive Caucus is the progressive arm of the socialists. They want to nationalize our economy and take it over. If the Government takes over the Fortune 500 companies, where they have already taken over one-third of the private sector profits, if they do that, they will have killed the goose that lays the golden egg, and there won't be any tax revenue then that comes into the Federal Government because the Government will be the entity that has to tax itself. And I know how that works. I have been to Cuba. I know how that functions down there, Mr. Speaker.

So we have a couple of flawed premises here. We spend too much on health care, the solution is to spend a lot more, and we don't have enough competition in health insurance companies, so one more, the Federal Government, competing against them solves the problem. I could not have advanced either one of those ideas and gotten them past first base. But that's where we are, Mr. Speaker.

And so it comes before us this weekend, this nationalization of our health care, the Federal management of our health care that has been debated since last July or so, that has filled the town hall meetings in the United States with hundreds of thousands of people and their cumulative total and every State in the Union that I'm aware of. They certainly filled them up in Iowa, they filled them up in Texas, and they filled them up in Minnesota and everywhere else. And the American people came to reject the idea that the Federal Government can take over our health care.

Now, some will argue that this isn't a nationalization of our health care. And I will submit in response to that, how far do you need to go before you concede that it's nationalized? If you set up a health choices administration commissioner who has the power and the authority vested in him by the legislation to approve every health insurance company in America, every health insurance policy in America, that is a nationalization.

It doesn't matter if the Federal Government is just managing the private companies. They will tell the private companies how they have to operate. Hugo Chavez tells companies how they have to operate in Venezuela. It doesn't mean they aren't nationalized. He will come in and say, you're going to give me so much of a cut out of your gross receipts, and you will meet all these standards. This is what you will

do to manage help; this is how it will look as far as the facade in front of your building. They dictate right down to the minutiae of what you have to do if you want to do business in Venezuela. Hugo Chavez dictates that. We call it "nationalize." If the Federal Government dictates these things, we say, what, no, that is just private? No.

I would make the argument that our military takes care of our national security, and sometimes they will hire private contractors. The left was critical of Blackwater; and they would like to, and some suggest did, reduce Blackwater's involvement overseas in places like Iraq. But if the Federal Government writes the check to Blackwater and says take care of the security for, let's just say, for the airport in the Baghdad, is there a difference between whether they are nationalized, whether it's people in uniform wearing military uniforms or people wearing paramilitary uniforms, if all the shots are called by the Federal Government? I don't think so, Mr. Speaker.

So what we're seeing here is the nationalization of our health care, the Federal Government dictating everything about our health insurance policies. The Federal Government would decide, in fact, they would cancel every health insurance policy in America over a period of time, 2 to 4 years, by the time they rotated through the Federal Government, would cancel every health insurance policy in America. And then if those policies didn't meet the new guidelines yet to be written into the rules and approved by the health choice administration commissioner, then what we have would be a Federal Government that would say, all right, your company hasn't met the guidelines and your policies haven't met our guidelines, therefore you're not doing business in the United States. That's just a fact, Mr. Speaker.

And so that is the nationalization of our health care. They want to tax you if you don't buy diet pop. They want to tax your medical devices, your hearing aids, your wheelchairs, your oxygen. And that's in order to fund this. So the people on this side of the aisle that spoke in the previous hour that have argued that they are actually going to save \$300 billion over a period of 10 years because they—do you know how long they have been massaging these numbers and they send something back to CBO, the Congressional Budget Office and go back and forth, in secret, by the way, until they get some numbers that they think they can defend as the clock ticks down?

Well, now they are at maybe \$300 billion in savings. But what they're not telling you it is a massive increase in taxes to raise revenue. The first 4 years of this bill produces revenue before the costs actually kick in. It is a half a trillion dollar cut out of Medicare reimbursements so that we are starving the health care services of our seniors in America.

That's just two of the ways that they manipulate these numbers. And that is where JUDD GREGG comes in and makes the argument that if you calculate the first full 10 years of this bill, it's \$2.5 trillion; and of course that's not considering the things that they would offer for reconciliation.

I would also make the point, Mr. Speaker, that this House doesn't have the will to pass the Senate bill. The Senate version of the bill can't pass the Senate today. They all know that. That's a given. They're not taking the bill back over there. It passed this Congress. The Senate version of the bill passed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Eve morning, to be charitable. HARRY REID's lump of coal in the stocking for America was this Senate socialized medicine bill that barely had enough votes to pass. It had none to spare.

And SCOTT BROWN was subsequently elected as the United States Senator from the improbable place of Massachusetts. And today, the Senate version of the bill can't pass the Senate. They couldn't bring that bill back there to pass it because maybe the Senators over there don't have buyer's remorse, but the people in Massachusetts had buyer's remorse. And they've reversed their position, and millions of Americans have reversed their position. They have done so because they've seen this spending that is out of control, and they don't want someone to take over their health care, so they reversed their position.

There are a lot that have buyer's remorse from the Presidential election in November of 2008. A lot of them would like to have a do-over, and they are not going to get one. But they have buyer's remorse. And so when you add the coalitions of people that are opposed to this national health care act, this socialized medicine, it becomes Americans with buyer's remorse that regret that they put the votes up that they did for "hope and change," and I put that nicely in quotes, votes for hope and change, they put it up, they had more hope, and we got a different kind of change than they thought they were going to get. But now they regret putting that vote up. That's the buyer's remorse crowd.

And then you have the newly energized Americans that are across the vast middle of America. They started out with 9/12 project, people that came out here by the hundreds of thousands on the 12th of September, and patriots of a number of different categories including TEA party patriots that lit up this country. And on April 15, they had rallies across this country. I joined in some of them. Then they filled up the town hall meetings across this country and began to also come to this Capitol to petition for redress of grievances, as the Constitution says, in a constitutional fashion.

□ 2145

They did so November 5, November 7. They did so again in December on the

Senate side. They came back again a few days ago, and they are going to be here tomorrow starting in the morning with the central event at noon on the west of the Capitol, and it will have thousands of Americans here that say: Keep your fingers off of my health care. I want to preserve my liberty. I want to preserve my freedom, and I want to preserve fiscal sanity in the United States of America.

I see that my friend and colleague, my neighbor to the north, has joined us here on the floor this evening, and I would be so happy to yield such time as she may consume to MICHELE BACHMANN.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank you to the gentleman from Iowa. He has done a wonderful job explaining the context of the health care debate that we are in today. We also have a neighbor to the south joining us as well, LOUIE GOHMERT from Texas, and he has a lot that he wants to add to this debate.

I just wanted to focus for context purposes, to begin with, on what the President has demonstrated thus far that his understanding of economics has been when he had been in the United States Senate. He was an advocate for the \$700 billion bailout of the banks and the financial meltdown. All through the 1990s and then in the early 2000s, there were continual bailouts that occurred. This was nothing new. This is yet one more bailout. They didn't work before.

What they did is they laid the groundwork, the moral hazard, if you will, for the same players, the same investment banking houses on Wall Street to make very bad bets because they knew the chump would be Uncle Sam. Uncle Sam would come along and pick up the pieces if they made mistakes.

What did they care. They rolled the dice. They took the risk. They risked their investors' money. And, when the deals went south, they came crawling back to Uncle Sam here in D.C., and Uncle Sam said, Sure, I will bail you out. That history was available for everyone to see.

Then-Senator Barack Obama should have known about those deals. After all, he served as a lawyer for Project Vote, Project Vote being an affiliate for ACORN, and ACORN was the organization pushing for all the relaxed lending standards that led to all of the toxic mortgages with the subprime loans that led to the mortgage-backed securities that were bad, that were starting to fail. And he was also a part of that effort suing, suing and threatening to sue so that banks and financial companies would relax their standards and make loans to people with no income, no assets, no jobs. The President had that in his background.

After that, he decided when he became President to deal with the financial crisis. Rather than tightening up those lending standards, he wanted to spend \$1 trillion. And he came here and he told all of us in the United States

Congress we had to spend \$1 trillion, because if we wouldn't, unemployment could go as high as 9 percent or 8 percent. I think he said it could go as high as 8 percent.

Mr. KING of Iowa. 8.5 is the number I remember.

Mrs. BACHMANN. 8.5 percent, it could go that high. So that is what the \$1 trillion was supposed to do.

The \$1 trillion was allocated. We saw unemployment soar above 8 percent, soar above 8.5, and now Americans are sitting at about a permanent level of near 10 percent. The White House came out and said, Get used to it. This is our new normal. We are looking at these elevated levels of high unemployment.

Well, America isn't used to this, Mr. Speaker. American people don't want to be used to these elevated levels of unemployment. They actually like to work, and they actually like high prosperity.

Also, when President Obama was a Senator, he wanted to devote our entire U.S. budget—he wanted to devote 1 percent or 1.5 percent of our U.S. budget to redistribute wealth to the rest of the world. Knowing that our country was already trillions of dollars in debt, his goal was to have us, every year, devote at least 1 percent of the U.S. budget to redistribute the wealth. We should have known where President Obama was going with this. We can't say that we weren't warned.

Next, the President offered cap-and-tax or cap-and-trade. That is the government takeover of the energy industry. In other words, the government would take control of 8 percent of the private economy.

After that, he was proposing amnesty for illegal aliens, saying that that was something he wanted to do, but the people were pushing back.

So what did we see happen? We saw 30 percent of the private economy taken over by the Federal Government. In fact, Senator Obama wasn't even sworn in yet as President of the United States, and he was already pushing President Bush, You have to give me \$17 billion, \$19 billion for the automobile task force, because, guess what, GM and Chrysler, they might go bankrupt if we don't get \$17 billion to \$19 billion. We have got to prop these businesses up, or they are going to go bankrupt.

President Bush, he was going out the door, President Obama was going in, so he gave that money to President Obama to create the automobile task force.

What did we get out of that deal? We got Chrysler bankrupt. We saw the bondholders shafted, losing their equity interest. We saw the UAW come in and scoop up a big share of that company so that they got their retirement plans and their health insurance plans, not fully, but funded at the expense of the bondholders, and the United States Government now is a shareholder. The same with GM. It is Government Motors. We all know that story.

And we also know the other thing the automobile task force did. They put 150,000 people out of work, with what? Pink slips to 3,400 mostly viable dealerships across the Nation.

This is the level of economics that we were treated to just in the very first months of the Obama administration.

After all of that groundwork was laid, after banks were taken over, AIG, the largest insurance company, Freddie and Fannie, the secondary mortgage market, which today the Federal Government owns over 50 percent of all of America's mortgages. That, the student loan industry, Chrysler, GM, 30 percent.

What did President Obama propose? Not to lower costs in health care, as my colleague STEVE KING has suggested, by allowing people to buy across State lines. No. His suggestion was let's have the Federal Government take over 18 percent more of the private economy and put it under government's control. That is the solution.

And so here we are, on a Friday night. America has spoken. Three out of four Americans have weighed in and said, We don't want any part of the Federal Government taking over our private health care system. We don't want it.

The doctors have said that. Investors Business Daily, 45 percent of all doctors surveyed said they would leave the profession if the government takes over health care. New England Journal of Medicine this week, 35 percent of all doctors surveyed, We will leave the medical profession.

But no, no, no. What does Speaker PELOSI want to do? What does President Obama want to do? Ram this bill through. Pass it, without even the courtesy of the Members of this body voting for the bill.

My name, MICHELE BACHMANN, will not be listed in the journal with a "yes" or a "no." Why? Because Speaker PELOSI, Mr. Speaker, wants to presume my vote. When she presumes my vote, Mr. Speaker, she has stripped the people of my district from their voice, because the people of my district made a choice, sent me here to vote on their behalf. And, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you with complete confidence, the overwhelming number of people in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District want nothing to do with this government takeover of health care. They want nothing to do with it, because the more they have heard, the more fearful they become.

So let's call it for what it is, Mr. Speaker. This is pretty clear. This administration and this Congress wants to have the Federal Government take over private industry, because if they win on Sunday, the American people lose. If they win, they will have taken over, effectively, one half of the American economy from September of 2008 until March 20, 2010. We are talking less than 2 years, something like 18 months time. This is stunning. This is a coup, if you will, an economic coup of

our free market system, half of it being taken over.

Mr. Speaker, someone came in, it almost feels like, in the middle of the night and has stolen away America's future and America's promise. That is why we are here tonight. There is no exit strategy out of this.

And then we learned that the IRS will be the enforcement agency for this new health care system. It will be up to the IRS to verify, on a monthly basis, that 300 million Americans have purchased insurance that is acceptable, not to the Americans, acceptable to government. Because every American, Mr. Speaker, all 300 million Americans are forced to purchase a product or a service that they may not want. But government wants them to have it, so they are forced to buy it.

So who is the enforcer? Well, it is the IRS. Doesn't that make everyone feel great? About 16,500 new IRS employees are about to be employed at a cost of \$10 billion, because they have got to breathe down the neck of every American every month to make sure that they have applied with government-approved health insurance. And, in order to do that, they have got to pry into private business. They have got to go into the books of every private business every month, find out how many employees that private business has, what the wages are that business is paying. All that information with the IRS, that is confidential taxpayer information, and now they will be sharing that with the Department of Health and Human Services.

And if the IRS, Mr. Speaker, discovers that an American has failed to purchase government-approved insurance, well, then that American is subject to a fine of \$2,250 or 2 percent of their income. The same with the businesses. The businesses also will be subject to fines, penalties, interest.

I don't remember, Mr. Speaker, on the President's team and the Cabinet, all of the people that had tax problems who weren't paying taxes who repaid their taxes, I don't recall too many of them paying taxes, penalties, and interest. They just paid their tax liability.

But that is not good for the American people. They don't get that sweetheart deal. No, no, no, Mr. Speaker. The American people and American private industry, they are paying the interest and the penalties and the taxes.

The IRS, Mr. Speaker, in this scenario, has now become the collection agency for the insurance companies. President Obama has been saying the Republicans are sold out to the insurance companies. Well, Mr. Speaker, now we know the truth. Behind those closed doors, President Obama struck a deal with these insurance companies so that every American is mandated to buy their product, and now the IRS is the collection agency and will be the enforcer and will send about one-half trillion dollars to the insurance companies.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Will the gentlelady read from the poster?

Mrs. BACHMANN. And the poster says, as my colleague STEVE KING is pointing, "Why does the Democrat bill subsidize health insurance companies?"

Here is the strong arm of the IRS shaking money out of the average American taxpayer and sending that money straight in to the insurance companies, which, by the way, we know will be collapsing, because ultimately that was the purpose. One of our colleagues in this body even said as much himself. He said this is a temporary step, because what they want is government to own it all.

Let's realize, Mr. Speaker, who are the hogs in this situation? Who are the pigs here? Who wants to soak up the people's money? It is the same culprit, Mr. Speaker. It is those who embrace Big Government. The big winner in the stimulus, the big winner in the TARP, the big winner in every bailout we have ever had, and the big winner in this health care bill is Big Government.

And, as my colleague shows, the loser in all of this is the forgotten man of the American taxpayer, the American worker, the American boy and girl who may not grow up to realize their American Dream of a better life than their parents. The biggest loser again, Mr. Speaker, is the forgotten man of the senior citizen who will have to potentially go without with their Medicare funding.

Well, not if we have anything to say about it, Mr. Speaker. Not if we have another breath in our body will this happen.

And so we are here. We are here, because this is all we can do, to fight until our last breath to make sure that this monstrosity does not make it over the finish line.

□ 2200

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota for this presentation tonight and for many more that have gone in the past and more that are in front of us before such time as we can put this monstrosity deep into a hole where it belongs for at least another generation. That's what happened when HillaryCare was brought forward, almost a generation ago, and that's what needs to happen here this weekend, Mr. Speaker.

I recognize that my friend from Texas is here—from east Texas. An Aggie from Texas. He will make it clear to us if we don't make it clear, anyhow. Judge GOHMERT from Texas, who has more to say about this health care monstrosity and this government takeover, I'd be happy to yield so much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank you and I appreciate the insightful words from the gentleman from Iowa, the gentlelady from Minnesota. One of our friends commented earlier tonight that America is a Nation of entrepreneurs. Thank

God, it used to be. Thank God, it could be again. But with the oppressiveness that the Federal Government has put on entrepreneurs and people who would do well and start businesses, they are making it next to impossible, because an entrepreneur needs capital. Normally, they have to borrow capital. This Federal Government is sucking the capital out of the country and not leaving anything for entrepreneurs to borrow capital. So I hear people every day I'm back in the district saying, I can't get loans like I need to keep my business going. I sure can't add anybody on—not that I could right now. I'm hearing over and over they're just trying to hang on, hoping the health care gets defeated, the cap-and-trade bill gets defeated.

You look at what is being done, just the atrociousness of the things that are in these bills. You look at what this bill effectively does. This monstrosity here, this is the Senate bill. It's not the House bill. And when you base a bill starting with a lie, that's not a good place to start. But on the front page of this Senate bill it starts with a lie. The Constitution, heaven forbid that anybody should refer back to it, the Constitution indicates that all revenue-generating bills must begin in the House. Well, the Senate didn't like the House bill. So they knew there was too much they wanted to do different in their bill.

So what they did, they took—and it's on the front of the Senate bill. As it says: In the Senate of the United States, December 24, 2009, as they did it on Christmas Eve. What a sad thing to do on Christmas Eve. Resolved, that the bill from the House of Representatives, H.R. 3590, entitled: An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees and for such other purposes, do pass with the following amendments. That's how this starts. That's how this atrocious health care bill that usurps, sucks the capital out of the country, it sucks the authority out of the States, it mandates oppressiveness upon people who would be entrepreneurs. And it starts with a lie. And now we're told we're going to have a rule.

Normally, a rule, anyone can ask—well, if no one objects, then we do not read the bill. But if there's any objection, then they have to read the entire bill. The rule, as I understand it, deems that there can be no reading of the bill; that it's already been read. It is deeming that the bill has been read. Not only that, once the procedural rule of how many minutes for debate and those kind of things is passed, then the bill—they will be deeming the bill passed. It's atrocious.

But I looked at this quote that I carry with me most of the time. I have a number of quotes that I carry in my suit pocket. And this one is from George Washington, when he said, Gov-

ernment is not reason. It is not eloquence. It is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

And so as we have looked at this, and I know my friends from Iowa and Minnesota remember President Obama going to the Caterpillar headquarters. Caterpillar is the world's largest construction machinery manufacturer—the world's largest construction machinery manufacturer. And it's in the news today that Caterpillar has sent a letter to the President, Speaker PELOSI, and other leaders, urging lawmakers to vote against the plan "because of the substantial cost burdens it would place on our shareholders, employees, and retirees."

The article here, this is from Chicago Breaking Business. Boy, is that true, Chicago Breaking Business, and business is about to be broke here. This is a quote from the letter, We can ill afford cost increases that places us at a disadvantage versus our global competitors. It says, We are disappointed that efforts at reform have not addressed the cost concerns we have raised throughout the year. The Peoria-based company said these provisions would increase its insurance costs by at least 20 percent or more than a \$100 million dollars just in the first year.

This is just incredible the Federal Government would do this to our largest manufacturer of construction equipment. I mean they have done so much to drive our businesses overseas. "Bye-bye jobs." This is another reason economists have told us that if this bill passes, signed into law on Sunday, 5 million jobs will be gone.

The article notes that the company supports efforts to increase the quality and value of health care, but unfortunately, neither the current legislation in the House or Senate nor the President's proposal meets these goals. It's going to bankrupt this company. They're going to have to go overseas. All these wonderful American workers that are doing such a great job will see their jobs go overseas.

And it brought me back to what my friends know, and I know my friend from Iowa and I have spent a great deal of time going back through the original Declaration of Independence. And if I could, just briefly, I would like to touch on a few things in that and see if instead of King George III, if this doesn't fit what the Federal Government is doing to the States and the people. And keep in mind the Ninth Amendment says, The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. They did not intend for the Federal Government to have all this power. They knew that most power would be retained by the people. And the 10th Amendment says, The powers not delegated, specifically delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor

prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

With that in mind, remember the Declaration of Independence says governments are instituted among men deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. They point out that the history of the present King of Great Britain—in our case, the Federal Government—is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations. We see them every day in this body, usurpations of the States and the people's rights. But the Declaration says, All having in direct object the establishment of absolute tyranny over the States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world. And one of the things it said is about the King—think about our Federal Government: He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance unless suspended in their operation until his assent should be obtained. And when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

We have heard from nearly 40 States who say, You can't do this to us. You're usurping the powers reserved under the Constitution to the States and the people. You're taking those away. We're ready to file a lawsuit as soon as you pass this unholy bill come Sunday. Sunday, the Lord's day, we're going to pass an unholy bill like this, when the vast majority of the States, over two-thirds of the States, are saying this is wrong. You're usurping our power. You can't do this. It's what they said in the Declaration. Goodness. And the Declaration goes on, He has erected a multitude of new offices and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their substance. Well, how about that? A new article today that happened to be in the paper talking about just that very thing. Isn't it interesting?

This is in the news today—yesterday, I'm sorry—from the Hill. It says, Assuming this bill becomes law, the Congressional Budget Office expects the IRS will need around \$10 billion over the next 10 years and nearly 17,000 new employees to meet its new responsibilities under health reform or, as the Declaration of Independence called it, to harass our people and eat out of their substance. They're going to take tax dollars in order to create 17,000 new IRS agents to go out and harass the people and eat out of their substance.

The Declaration goes on: He has combined with others to subject us to jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution and unacknowledged by our laws, given his assent to their acts of portended legislation. We see that in things that this White House is proposing; that we're going to give Interpol, a foreign intelligence group, the same rights our own intelligence people have in this country. And another point. We're suspending our own legislatures and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

It goes on: In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered by repeated injury. A prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of free people. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and consanguinity. For support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Man, the power in there. The power in that. And out from that, John Adams wrote this letter to Abigail. On July 4th he wrote her, and he said at the end, You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I'm not. I'm well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration and to support and defend these States, yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is more than worth all the means, and that posterity will triumph in that day's transaction, which I trust in God.

□ 2215

Anyway, these are powerful things, and these are on our shoulders to protect the States and the people's rights and not to continue to usurp what was so graciously entrusted to us and to make sure the States had us protected. I thank my friend, and I yield back.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time from the gentleman from Texas, I appreciate the work that he puts into this and the research that gets done and the memory that it taps into. We reviewed this Declaration of Independence not that long ago, and we established—the three of us, actually, very intensively working on it along with a few others—the declaration of health care independence and produced a document that reflects many of the same values that are in the Declaration of Independence. And it lays out the rules of the road for going forward, a very reasonable thing to do. It anchored that philosophy of the declaration of health care independence, which I imagine is on all of our Web sites, Mr. Speaker, into these values into the declaration itself.

I listened to this discussion, and what I get out of this is one thing: this national health care bill doesn't play in Peoria. I mean, Peoria where the national headquarters of Caterpillar are. The world's largest heavy equipment manufacturer has written a letter that says that their shareholders, their employees, and their retirees will be disadvantaged by this, that there will be a 20 percent increase in their premium costs, and the first year would cost them \$100 million.

And over the course of this bill where this Congress sets up the cost estimates and the budget in a 10-year period of time, that's \$1 billion. It's a \$1 billion tax on a great American corporation, Caterpillar, based out of Peoria, Illinois, which has been viewed to be the center of America. If it doesn't play in Peoria, it doesn't play for America. Well, this bill doesn't play in Peoria, Mr. Speaker.

Then one of the other components of this is the unconstitutionality of the legislation. We're virtually guaranteed that if a bill passes here Sunday or any other day, that there immediately will be lawsuits that will be filed as soon as it becomes law, if it should become law. And I believe that the President is sitting at the White House now, looking for a chance to sign something. But there would immediately be lawsuits because of the unconstitutionality of the bill. Congressman GOHMERT's talked at length about the violation of the Ninth Amendment of the Constitution. And remember, the powers that are not vested in the Federal Government are reserved for the States or the people, respectively.

There is no one that can point to the authority in the Constitution that would grant this Congress the authority to compel an American citizen to buy a product that's produced or approved by the Federal Government, every American for the very privilege of being an American, being compelled to buy a product that the Federal Government has designed and approved. That would be the first in the history of America. The Congressional Budget Office wrote about this back in 1994 when HillaryCare was preparing to do the same thing.

Here's the conundrum, Mr. Speaker. First they want to establish socialized medicine, so there is a long hard leftward push on this. But in order to solve the problem of preexisting conditions—people that can't buy insurance that can sick, and we have solutions for that that I'll not go into tonight because of the interest of time—they would argue that they will compel every insurance company to sell insurance policies to applicants without regard for their preexisting conditions. So someone could have a very expensive and serious cancer, have not ever had any health insurance, and walk into the health insurance company and say, Sell me insurance now. I have got a diagnosis that says it is going to cost me a few hundred thousand dollars. People won't buy insurance until they're sick if you prohibit insurance companies from considering preexisting conditions. That's just a fact.

So the way they solve that problem of people refusing to buy insurance if you're going to compel insurance companies to issue is they compel every American to own a health insurance policy, and that's where we get into trouble. That's where the unconstitutionality of this comes up. That's

why there's no precedent for the Federal Government producing or approving a product that requires every American to buy it. And as Mrs. BACHMANN said so clearly, put the IRS in charge of doing the enforcement, and the IRS in charge of doing the collection, the IRS in charge of collecting the insurance premiums for the insurance companies and transferring that into the insurance companies—that's what will be going on with the Federal Government.

So it's unconstitutional on two other grounds I can think of. And one of them would be a violation of the equal protection clause. The equal protection clause means that because we have people in different States that would be affected differently by it, if you live in Nebraska, you've got a different benefit than if you live in Iowa or Minnesota or Texas. And because of the Cornhusker kickback—and yes, they say they're going to fix that. It's in the bill. If anybody votes for a rule that deems the bill passed, they voted for Cornhusker kickbacks, they voted for the Louisiana purchase, they voted for the Florida Gator aid bill that exempts the senior citizens in Florida from the cuts in Medicare Advantage that will be brought against the senior citizens in Iowa and in the other States.

And it sends money by backroom deals into clinics across this country at the insistence of BERNIE SANDERS, a self-evolved socialist from Vermont. Self-evolved. I didn't lay that label on him. He lays it on himself. So that's another place where it's unconstitutional, Mr. Speaker.

And another way is a violation of the commerce clause. There are people that don't do business with health insurance companies. The Federal Government does not have the authority under the commerce clause to impose a health insurance policy on somebody that's not engaged in interstate commerce. And that could be a person that's born, doesn't do health care, and dies within a State, that doesn't cross State lines. There's no way you can argue they were involved in interstate commerce. So this massive stretch, it is unconstitutional.

It does fund abortions, and it funds abortions in a number of ways. Congressman GOHMERT has laid that out pretty clearly. Even though the Speaker has publicly said it doesn't fund abortion, it does. And when you look at Congressman GOHMERT's argument and you track the legal language, you have to understand it starts out about \$700 million a year for that subject and grows to about \$1.5 billion a year. It's in the categories of the authorizations within the bill itself. And then it also funds abortions through the Federal health insurance exchange that just says that there has to be a policy offered that doesn't cover them that someone could buy.

A policy doesn't have to be something that meets their other needs. It would just be something to assuage the

conscience of a single taxpayer. The other part of this could be a whole series of health insurance policies that do fund abortions under the Senate language.

So when the President says he won't sign a bill that does fund abortion, that's just simply not true. And the liberals have been making the argument ever since 1973—ever since *Roe v. Wade* was decided by the Supreme Court and *Doe v. Bolton*, both on abortion issues—they have argued that the Federal Government has no business telling a woman what she can or can't do with her body, two generations of arguments saying that over and over again. The Federal Government has no business telling a woman what she can or can't do with her body. They argue about whose body it is, but that's been their argument, their statement since 1973.

And now the same people, this side of the aisle, the liberals, the progressives, the Democrats in Congress are now arguing that the Federal Government has every business to tell everybody in America what they can or can't do with their bodies. That undermines their argument that they call pro-choice or else their pro-choice argument undermines their argument that we ought to have nationalized socialized medicine. They can't have that one both ways, Mr. Speaker. They have got to settle on one side or the other. I think they're both untenable arguments myself.

Then the bill also funds illegals, and the President has said that he won't sign a bill that funds illegals. And the Speaker has said it doesn't fund illegals. I will tell you that I have been through this policy for 7-plus years. I know this policy. Two and a half years ago under the rewrite of SCHIP, the children's health insurance legislation, they changed the language for proof of citizenship to qualify for Medicaid. Prior to that, it required that an applicant would produce a birth certificate and a couple of supporting documents to show that they were an American citizen or their naturalization papers and supporting documents.

They lowered the standard to only require that an individual simply attest to a nine-digit Social Security number. Just attesting to a nine-digit Social Security number means that you don't have to speak English, you don't have to have anything except be able to write down nine numbers. Nobody checks it; they just qualify for the benefit. That's the case with Medicaid, and the Congressional Budget Office put out those numbers on those additional costs there. And here the Congressional Budget Office has now, through their calculations, shown that under the Senate version of the bill—the reason is because they lower the standard of proof. Even though it says, We're not going to fund illegals in the bill, they lower the standards of proof. CBO's numbers then—their calculations produce this number—6.1 illegals

could qualify for taxpayer-funded health insurance benefits under the Senate version of the bill.

So we have a bill that's designed to expand the dependency class in America in order to expand the political class on the left side of the aisle that funds abortions against the will of the American people and violates any principle we have here that American people of principles should not be compelled to fund abortions. And it also funds illegals.

While expanding the dependency class, we have 38 States that have initiated legislation that has already been signed into law in Idaho by Governor Butch Otter, compelling his State attorney general to file a lawsuit in Federal court because of the unconstitutionality of this bill. They're already set up. The idea of facing almost 17,000 IRS agents to eat out our substance, to sit in our kitchens and go into our offices and look through our books and look through our health insurance policies to determine and verify if it's the proper policy, that's approved by Uncle Sam.

Mr. Speaker, we need to kill this bill this weekend and have this rally at noon tomorrow. We'll have it on the west side of the Capitol.

I yield back.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my three colleagues who were here for the last hour doing yeoman's work on explaining why this so-called health care reform bill is bad, why it's unconstitutional, why it does not deserve to be passed. I want to especially thank my colleague from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for reminding us of the words in the Declaration of Independence and John Adams' letter to Abigail Adams.

What we're doing here is really pitiful compared to what the Founders did and all those who have sacrificed to keep this country free. This country is really a miracle. Never before in the history of the world were there people who believed that they had the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We were a totally revolutionary people. It was a totally radical idea, and it is our job now to keep that miracle going. The founding of this country was truly a miracle and I think ordained by God.

From the beginning of this country, it has been average people who have kept us free: those who fought in the Revolutionary War, those who have fought in every war since, those who gave their lives and who gave their time, who were wounded, who came back wounded and maimed from those wars in other countries because they know that the price of freedom is dear. The price of freedom for us is not threatening our lives currently, but it