

were persons who wanted to peacefully march from Selma to Montgomery, and they knew that as they crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge there were members of the constabulary waiting on the other side of the bridge prepared to do them harm under the color of law. And they did. I would also remind us that it was Frank Johnson, an Anglo Federal judge, who signed the law that allowed the march to continue. He signed an order.

And as I reflected on these incidents, I realized that if Rosa Parks could take that seat by herself, surely I could cross that street and come over to vote. And I realized that if those marchers, including JOHN LEWIS, could march into the constabulary armed with clubs, I could surely cross that street with a constabulary out to protect me.

And so I bring these thoughts to the attention of this House because this truly is a fight. C.A. Tinsley was right. The fight is not yet over. Harder yet may be the fight. But I want to commend those persons of good will who have stood up and spoken up against the behavior that was exhibited by the persons who were out on the streets. I commend every person, Republican, Democrat. It doesn't matter your party affiliation. This kind of behavior merits condemnation.

I would simply close with this. As we move forward and as these kinds of ugly incidents take place, I beg that we would continue to condemn this behavior, because C.A. Tinsley was right:

Harder yet may be the fight. Might may often yield to right. Wickedness awhile may seem to reign, and Satan's cause may seem to gain. But there's a God that rules above, with a hand of power and a heart of love. And when we're right, he will help us fight. Harder yet may be the fight.

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

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONCERN FOR ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. First of all, let me say to my colleague who just spoke, we all abhor racial epithets and we all abhor prejudice, but one of the things that concerns me is that we have an awful lot of people who are upset about what is going on here in Washington, the Tea Party people and others, who really feel like they're not being listened to by the Congress of the United States. I don't want to see them tarred by the same brush as a few people who got out of line.

Obviously, we hate racial prejudice or anybody that says things like we've

heard have been said, but all the people who are fighting against what's been taking place here and legislation like this national health care bill, they should not be condemned for coming to Washington and fighting for what they believe in because a few people got out of order. Obviously, we're concerned about people that say those things, and they shouldn't be saying those. They should be condemned.

But we should listen to the people who are here who are fighting for their rights and the things they believe in as far as health care is concerned. They don't want the government coming between them and their doctor. They don't want socialized medicine. And that's why they were out here. If a few got out of order, they should be condemned. But we should not tar all the people in this country—over 60 percent who didn't want that bill passed—with the same brush, and sometimes I think that's what's happening.

But that's not why I came down here tonight. I was just responding to my colleague who just spoke, who's a very good friend of mine. What I came down here to talk about was the shabby treatment that Benjamin Netanyahu from Israel has gotten when he has been here twice now to visit with the President. We met with Bibi Netanyahu, the Prime Minister of Israel, this week, the Foreign Affairs Committee on which I serve, and we talked to him about the threat of Iran, which is a threat not only to Israel and the Middle East, but it's a threat to the entire world. We get about 30 or 40 percent of our energy from the Middle East, and if that goes up in smoke because of the war, we're going to suffer economically because we are not energy independent.

One of my colleagues was down here talking about not being able to drill offshore or in the ANWR to move toward energy independence, and we're not. We're still dependent on the Middle East and South America and Mr. Chavez and Venezuela, people that don't like us at all; yet, we still depend on them and we're not moving toward energy independence.

So what happens if Israel is forced into doing something about Iran and a war breaks out in that whole area? The whole world will suffer and we will suffer economically because we won't have the energy with which to run our country and our economy. So this is very important.

Now, when the President meets with Bibi Netanyahu, it's obvious by his body language and the way he treats the Prime Minister of Israel that he doesn't agree with him on Israel's goals to preserve and protect their country. And that's not the way it should be, because right now Iran is not only trying to develop a nuclear weapon—and we think they're very close—but they're also trying to develop a delivery system that will not only hit targets in the Middle East like Israel, but targets in parts of Europe. And they're trying

to develop an intercontinental ballistic missile that could hit parts of the United States. And if Iran gets nuclear weapons, all those countries around them are going to want to have nuclear weapons and this world is going to be put on the precipice of a nuclear holocaust that nobody wants.

This isn't baloney folks. This is what's really going to happen, Mr. Speaker.

So we need to do everything we can to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons. They are a terrorist state that has waged war along with al Qaeda and the Taliban against us and our freedoms and against Israel as well. We need to do everything we can to make sure that they do not succeed. Those people are terrorists, and we're at war against terrorism. And so we have to be absolutely committed to stopping them from developing that nuclear capability, and that means we have to work with Israel, our only really strong ally in the Middle East, who wants to do something about this.

Bibi Netanyahu knows what's at stake. The millions of lives of Israelis that are there will be the first target, and they will be blown up and attacked if Iran gets nuclear weapons. And Israel's going to have to take action. If they take action by themselves, it could be a catastrophic situation. They need our help, and the President of the United States should know that the majority of this Congress supports Israel's right to exist and supports them in their effort to stop Iran from developing nuclear capabilities.

So, if the President were listening tonight, I would say this to him, Mr. Speaker: Mr. President, listen. The majority of both the House and the Senate supports giving Israel the ability to defend itself and to defend our interests in the Middle East, to work with us to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons that will threaten not only the Middle East, but the entire world. I think, Mr. President, you ought to go out on the lawn of the White House and declare your support for Israel, their right to exist, their right to survive, and that we're with them to stop Iran from developing nuclear capability.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4938. An act to permit the use of previously appropriated funds to extend the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3186. An act to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004 through April 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

S. 3187. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. A key part of the historic health care reforms that this Congress has now passed is the way that it empowers people to rise from poverty and reduce their reliance on government for providing their health care. Medicaid provides health care as an entitlement to the very poorest Americans. For a family of four, the Federal poverty line is about \$22,000. For an individual, it's just under \$11,000. So your earnings have to be below that to qualify for Medicaid. Now one thing that our health care reform package does is it increases that dollar amount to 130 percent of poverty, but the other thing it does is it provides a way out of poverty, a way to earn more money without losing your health care.

Currently, many people who hover just around the poverty line can't accept a raise, can't take a second job. If they take a raise of 10 cents an hour from \$8.50 to \$8.60, if they work 50 or 60 hours a week instead of 40, they lose their eligibility. Their income puts them slightly above the poverty line. And what they lose in health care benefits is far more than the money that they earn if they earn an additional \$500 or \$800, which could make all the difference in their lives.

With health care reform, we're replacing that with a sliding scale. No more does all that aid cut off right when you hit poverty or 130 percent of the poverty level. You have an incentive to get out and earn that extra dollar to better yourself, to work that extra hour because the Federal assistance for your health care will decrease on a sliding scale. This will provide an incentive and help lead people off of government health care.

It's rather ironic. I've heard people on the other side of the aisle talk

about a government takeover of health care. Of course the government isn't taking over any part of health care with this bill. Not only that, we finally will help people get off of government assistance for health care by giving them the incentive to work more and have individual responsibility to pay their own premiums for their own policy with their own money. No more will people lose all of their health care benefits as a perverse incentive not to work that existed prior to this historic law being signed by President Obama. I am confident that over time, this law will lead to less people relying on government for their health care, more individual responsibility. People will have an incentive to get themselves and their families out of a life of poverty, to break the vicious cycle of poverty that has held too many families and too many generations in chains.

The government needs to encourage people to better themselves, and with this historic health care, we are doing that by allowing a sliding scale of subsidies all the way up to a couple hundred percent of the poverty level. So as that family earns \$25,000, \$30,000 a year, is working their way up, climbing on up the ladder of opportunity that this country offers, so too will their aid decline that they are given to afford health care, but it will decline on a sliding scale so that when they earn that extra dollar, they may lose 40, 50, 60 cents of Federal Government assistance. But there is an incentive to earn that extra dollar because, by golly, they get to keep part of it and spend it for themselves and their family. And that can make all the difference in lifting Americans out of poverty and encouraging the American value of individual responsibility for all American families.

VACATING 5-MINUTE SPECIAL ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the 5-minute Special Order in favor of Mr. FRANKS of Arizona is vacated.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MAFFEI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MAFFEI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN SUPPORT OF MEMBERS OF ILWU LOCAL 30 IN BORON, CALIFORNIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RICHARDSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. RICHARDSON. I rise today to something that's very personal to me and important, and that's advocating for working people. You see, you're

looking at a Member of Congress who had the opportunity to have a mother who was part of a bargaining unit, who was a member of a union. She had an opportunity to have someone advocate on behalf of not only herself but her two daughters as well. And because my mother had that advocate, she was able to send her daughters to good schools, she was able to put braces on our teeth, and she was able to ensure that, yes, that little girl back in Los Angeles, California, would have an opportunity to one day become a Member of Congress.

You know, it wasn't that long ago when we had elections, and we saw things that were happening out in America where working people had worked all their lives for these companies, and yet they were finding that they were being sent out the door. Let me tell you about a story that I heard about this last week. I rise today to speak in support of the hardworking miners of Local 30 of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, ILWU, in Boron, California. Since January 31, 2010, approximately 560 mine workers, 560 families have found themselves locked out of their jobs by their employer Rio Tinto, leaving them scrambling to provide for their families and to pay for health care benefits—what we've been talking about these last couple of weeks, to have to pay through the nose premiums of COBRA which many of them cannot afford. So they've had to choose between putting food on their tables and providing benefits for their families, something no one in America should have to choose. Days before the lockout, the miners were presented with a contract that called for cutting benefits, converting full-time jobs to part-time jobs, and reserving to itself the right to outsource all of their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, this style and approach to hardworking Americans is not operating in good faith. This isn't what we signed up to do, and neither did we sign up to support it. Leaving 560 hard-working men and women forced to choose between their job and benefits is happening too often to too many workers these days. Companies that come to this Congress to ask us to approve and authorize assistance so that they can have concessions and then to refuse to turn around and pass those same benefits on to the American people is wrong. I believe it's time for this Congress—not other Congresses, but this Congress right now—to stand up, this administration and the agencies, and support legislation and funding that helps the workers, the companies, and our economy. All of them should be viewed at the same level.

This Congress helped with TARP legislation. We helped with the American Recovery Act. We did all that, and many on Wall Street benefited, and we see that today. My message today is, isn't it time for us to also do the same for Main Street, for those 560 locked-out mine workers in California who deserve at least the same?