

If repealed, these benefits will be removed and the impact on my district will be devastating. The number of uninsured in my district will increase by 104,000 people; 326,000 residents would yet again be vulnerable to insurers' devious practices, such as lifetime limits and rescission; and insurers could once more deny coverage for up to 294,000 individuals in my district alone, including 35,000 children with a preexisting condition.

Madam Speaker, we should concentrate on creating jobs, not repealing health reform for middle class Americans.

HONORING THE GUARDIANS OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY IN BUCKS COUNTY, PA

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a group that has made a difference in our country, the Guardians of the National Cemetery in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. This is a group comprised entirely of volunteers who have assumed the mission and duty of performing many of the sacred functions of the National Cemetery in Washington Crossing, Bucks County.

Today, the Guardians, led by their President, Antonio Albano, are 250 members strong. Among this proud group are the visionaries that fought to bring the National Cemetery to its current location in Bucks County. They worked tirelessly through the selection process with the VA not only to select the site, but also to prove that there will always be a dedicated group of individuals willing and able to provide the necessary services to those who rest in this solemn place and to their families.

After the VA made the wise decision to locate the cemetery in Bucks County, the Guardians immediately began the work they have become known for—organizing services on Memorial Day and Veterans Day, as well as placing wreaths on the graves of our veterans. These are just some of the things the Guardians do to bring comfort to the bereaved and to honor those who have served us.

Madam Speaker, honoring the work of the Guardians of the National Cemetery is particularly fitting today, January 20, 2011, because today marks the 1-year anniversary of the first veteran laid to rest at the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, a place that the Guardians have now helped to make hallowed ground.

Tonight, the Guardians will gather to mark this occasion and pay tribute to the veterans who have been laid to rest at the National Cemetery. I am honored to make note of their achievements here on the floor of the House this morning and will be honored to be among them this evening.

HEALTH CARE REPEAL AND JOBS

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

Mr. BACA. Instead of focusing on creating new jobs and helping middle class families, our Republican friends want to turn back the clock. We all know this week's vote to repeal and replace the health reform is nothing but political fiction, with no intention of doing anything to improve health care. It's just a smoke screen. The reality is that a repeal of reform will be bad for our economy and worse for American families and businesses.

In my district alone, repealing health care reform would discriminate against the 305,000 people who suffer from pre-existing conditions—129 million nationwide. It would eliminate tax credits for 10,000 small businesses, kick 5,000 young adults off their parents' insurance plans—and 1.2 million nationwide—and it throws more than 5,000 seniors back into the doughnut hole of higher drug costs—2.7 million nationwide.

Let's stand with American families and say "yes" to more jobs and "no" to all efforts to repeal health reform.

□ 0910

NEXT STEP: REAL REFORM TO OBAMACARE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House passed a bill that repealed the liberal unconstitutional health care takeover. I would like to congratulate my colleagues who voted in favor of the repeal of the job-killing health law act. The winning margin was new conservative Members elected in November to truly promote limited government and expanded freedom.

Our work is not yet complete. Today, the House will be voting on true, real health care reform authored by Chairman DAVID DREIER—reform that can make health care accessible, reform that will make health care affordable, reform that will not eliminate small businesses.

I hope all Members will work together for this kind of health care reform. The measure we are voting on today will not deprive seniors of care. It will not create long waiting lines for the sick. It will not burden future generations of Americans with massive debt.

Madam Speaker, this is the kind of health care reform Americans want to see. It's a solution for our families who need to preserve the doctor-patient relationship.

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

LOOKING AT THE VIOLENCE IN TUCSON

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, in the wake of the tragedy in Tucson 10 days ago, there has been a lot of soul searching, a lot of introspection, and a lot of commentary about what was behind the tragedy there and what motivated Jared Loughner to take the action he did.

It's become the judicious and kind of the politically correct thing to say, Oh, it was just one madman doing something. We can't ascribe responsibility to anything else.

I think that's too easy. I think that's a cop-out.

The fact is that Jared Loughner did not try to attack the community college that threw him out, any of the employers who had fired him, or anybody in his family. He singled out GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, an elected official of the United States Government. And one has to wonder whether all of the talk in recent years about tyrannical governments and the demonization of politicians did not in some way guide that madman to her instead of another target.

I think we need to not just write this off as a senseless tragedy and an inexplicable one. We need to delve into it more deeply and decide whether the rhetoric that's out there in the media environment had something to do with this tragic event.

TWO GREAT PRESIDENCIES

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

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.

Madam Speaker, those are among the brilliant words that 50 years ago today were delivered by President John F. Kennedy as he was inaugurated. In 3 hours we are going to be marking that inaugural with a ceremony in the great rotunda. And I think it's very important, Madam Speaker, as we do that to remember not only John F. Kennedy's commitment to our Nation's security, but to once again underscore his passionate commitment to our economic security by his implementation of pro-growth economic policies that were replicated 30 years ago today when Ronald Reagan became President of the United States and pursued the same kinds of pro-growth policies that President John F. Kennedy pursued.

I hope very much, Madam Speaker, that we can learn from the lessons of both of these great Presidencies.

HEALTH INSURANCE REPEAL

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, yesterday's action of repealing the health care reform, cynically called the Job-Killing Health Care Act by my friends on the other side of the aisle, is definitely an ironic misnomer—job killing—when the health reform is poised to create 4 million new jobs. The number of jobs created by repeal? Zero.

So we're not about protecting jobs on the other side of the aisle. We are about protecting insurance companies' bottom line.

REMEMBERING ASHLEY TURTON

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Ashley Turton. Ashley had an incredible career both in the public and private sectors and was respected by so very many people of every political persuasion. She was a wonderful mother of three children, and her death is especially difficult for those of us on Capitol Hill because we got to know Ashley through her work as ROSA DELAURO's chief of staff. She was part of our family. She was a woman of great skill and a woman of great personality.

We also know her husband, Dan Turton, who also worked on the Hill for many years and served as the chief of staff to the House Rules Committee. He currently works for the White House.

I attended, along with hundreds and hundreds of others, Ashley's memorial service last Friday here in Washington, DC. Those who eulogized Ashley captured her spirit, her determination, and her great compassion.

She was a remarkable woman and will never be forgotten. And our prayers are with Dan and Ashley's family.

INSTRUCTING CERTAIN COMMITTEES TO REPORT LEGISLATION REPLACING THE JOB-KILLING HEALTH CARE LAW

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 26, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 9) instructing certain committees to report legislation replacing the job-killing health care law, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 9

Resolved, That the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Ways and Means, shall each report to the House

legislation proposing changes to existing law within each committee's jurisdiction with provisions that—

- (1) foster economic growth and private sector job creation by eliminating job-killing policies and regulations;
- (2) lower health care premiums through increased competition and choice;
- (3) preserve a patient's ability to keep his or her health plan if he or she likes it;
- (4) provide people with pre-existing conditions access to affordable health coverage;
- (5) reform the medical liability system to reduce unnecessary and wasteful health care spending;
- (6) increase the number of insured Americans;
- (7) protect the doctor-patient relationship;
- (8) provide the States greater flexibility to administer Medicaid programs;
- (9) expand incentives to encourage personal responsibility for health care coverage and costs;
- (10) prohibit taxpayer funding of abortions and provide conscience protections for health care providers;
- (11) eliminate duplicative government programs and wasteful spending; or,
- (12) do not accelerate the insolvency of entitlement programs or increase the tax burden on Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to House Resolution 26, the resolution is debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules or their designees. The amendment printed in part B of House Report 112-2, if offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) or his designee, shall be considered read, and shall be separately debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today we begin the process of implementing health care reform. I underscore that. Implementing health care reform is what we begin today.

This resolution, H. Res. 9, initiates the second step of a two-part process, which, as we all know with the 245-189 vote last night, saw repeal of the health care bill.

Having taken that action to wipe the slate clean, we're now moving on to the far more challenging task of crafting real solutions for the American people to ensure that we can drive down the costs of health insurance and health care.

This resolution instructs the four committees of jurisdiction to draft legislation that brings about meaningful health care reforms. Furthermore, this resolution lays out 12 clear guidelines that define what real reform is. Some of these guidelines are simply common-sense principles, such as the need for reform that doesn't hurt job creation or the need to eliminate duplicative wasteful spending.

But if there is one overarching principle for true reform, it's that we cannot pick winners and losers. Real reform must be accessible to every American.

If a family is forced to give up a health plan that is working for them, can we call that reform? If a small business must lay off employees to comply with new mandates, can we call that reform? If a doctor is forced to close her family practice because the cost of malpractice insurance is prohibitive, can we call that reform? If government bureaucrats make decisions that should be left to doctors and patients, can we call that reform, Madam Speaker? Obviously not.

Our goal is to increase access to quality health care for every single American, including those with preexisting conditions. H. Res. 9, that we're going to be considering here today, puts us on the path to do just that.

As I said at the outset, this is a tremendous challenge. Achieving the goal of meaningful health care reform, which we all share, will demand an open and collaborative process. The four committees of jurisdiction have a great deal of work ahead of them. This is a process in which we all must contribute—Democrats and Republicans alike.

We have good ideas that are coming from both sides of the aisle, and I believe that they will be considered through this deliberative process. These ideas must be shared, analyzed, and debated. If we all participate in this open and transparent process, I believe that we can address the health care challenges that we face in an effective and meaningful way.

Ultimately, we all hope to arrive at the same place. We all share the same goal, that is, access to quality care for all. That's what House Republicans want to achieve, and that's what my Democratic colleagues want to achieve as well. And that's what President Obama wants to achieve. We all have our own views on how we get there.

□ 0920

In this body alone we have 435 views on the best way to reform our health care system. We owe the American people nothing short of a rigorous and thorough debate. But if we conduct that debate in good faith, Madam Speaker, grounded in the recognition that we all hope to achieve the same outcome, I believe that we, in a bipartisan way, Democrats and Republicans together, can come up with real solutions.

Now, we saw the day before yesterday that the President said that he is willing and eager to work with Republicans on the issue of health care. That's a sentiment that I, and I know my colleagues on this side of the aisle, share wholeheartedly. This resolution, H. Res. 9, puts us on a path towards doing just that. It will begin this critically important process.

So I hope very much that we will have strong, bipartisan support for this resolution. I will say that we have an amendment that will be coming forward, a Democratic amendment that the Rules Committee has made in