

IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROTECT
LIFE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state my strident opposition to H.R. 358, proposed by our colleague, Representative PITTS, which we will be considering later on today.

H.R. 358 includes several truly unprecedented restrictions on abortion coverages—coverages which, by the way, our Supreme Court has determined are rights of women. And it would limit access to abortion services for all women, regardless of their health status, economic circumstances, age, or any other considerations.

This bill would also impose sweeping refusal provisions that not only undermine women's health care and women's rights, but actually endanger women's lives. It's not hyperbole to say that the provisions of the Pitts bill represent an extreme and callous attack on women's health.

First, H.R. 358 would effectively end abortion coverage for women in State insurance exchanges, both for those who receive subsidies to buy coverage and for those who use their own private money to buy coverage. This would mean that millions of women—contrary to what we have promised them through the Affordable Care Act, that they would be able to keep coverage they currently have—would actually lose the coverage that they currently have. The Pitts bill represents an unparalleled restriction on the use of private funds and an insurmountable impediment for women who simply want to be able to choose a health plan that will cover all of their potential health needs.

Second, H.R. 358 would codify and expand the vast refusal clause currently in law, the Weldon amendment, granting people with only a tangential connection to abortion services—such as receptionists who make appointments or claims adjusters at insurance companies—the right to refuse services to women who seek abortions. Not only that, but the Pitts bill would make it possible for States to pass a whole new slate of refusal laws that could allow insurers to opt out of covering not just abortion care, but birth control, screening, counseling for sexually transmitted diseases, mammograms, and much more.

But the most shocking expansion of our refusal laws is the provision in H.R. 358 that would exempt hospitals from treating or referring women, in case of emergency abortion care, even if women will die without it. Hospitals would no longer be forbidden from abandoning patients on the doorstep of emergency rooms and providing treatment to at least stabilize the medical condition of such patients. This provision heartlessly puts the preferences of hospitals above the lives of women.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 358 even establishes restrictions on peo-

ple's ability to get information about their coverage options. The Pitts bill would prevent the Federal Government, States, or any other entity implementing the Affordable Care Act from requiring access to abortion services. This means, for example, that people may not get impartial or even accurate information from the patient navigators who are designated to help them choose coverage.

The advocates of Planned Parenthood in Wisconsin sent me a story that truly encapsulates the emotion, the real-life consequences of what we're talking about today. This is Judy's story, not a woman who wanted an abortion so that her bikini line would not be ruined, but a woman whose mother had died when she was 4 years old. She and her husband agonized about their decision, but her health was in jeopardy, and they knew that preserving her health and her life was the best choice for her family.

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And she painfully, painfully, agonizingly decided to terminate her pregnancy to save her life and to preserve the quality of the life of the one child that she has so that she could rear him.

To protect the right to safe, legal abortion care takes a serious commitment to Wisconsin's health, and it takes courage, Mr. Speaker. Politicians who want to end private health insurance coverage of abortion have neither of these qualities.

FOCUS ON JOB CREATION IN
AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Nevada's unemployed workers who got a glimpse this week of exactly what is wrong with Washington. Too many politicians in Washington have their priorities upside down.

My State is struggling with record unemployment rates. We should be focused every day here in Washington like a laser on job creation. And yet, this week, Washington voted repeatedly to send more jobs overseas.

Just yesterday, the House voted to kill legislation that would have stopped China from cheating Nevada workers out of thousands of jobs. These unfair currency manipulation tactics by China have already cost the Silver State nearly 15,000 jobs; and ironically, at the same time that Washington Republicans rejected efforts to stand up to China, three job-killing trade agreements sailed through the House and the Senate. These trade agreements could cost our Nation another 200,000 jobs.

Mr. Speaker, we need jobs here in America, not in foreign countries. Unemployed workers in Nevada and across our Nation are counting on us to get our priorities straight. Washington

must stop protecting China and start fighting to create jobs for American workers right here on American soil.

BIG GOVERNMENT CONSERVATISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, in the current issue of the American Spectator Magazine, Robert Merry, the former CEO of the Congressional Quarterly, has a great article that I wish everyone would read. It is an article about the Presidency of Andrew Jackson, but it applies lessons of history to modern-day issues and problems better than almost anything I have ever read.

Mr. Merry says the Republican Party should not follow the big government conservatism of David Brooks, William Kristol, or Presidents like Theodore Roosevelt or George W. Bush, who he says "expanded the size and scope of the Federal Government and pursued the global goal of remaking other cultures in far-flung regions."

Mr. Merry asks, "Who among past Presidents should Republicans turn to for lessons and guidance?"

"The answer," he says, "is Andrew Jackson, who would have slapped down the notion of American greatness conservatism," i.e., big government conservatism, "with utter contempt because he believed," that is, Jackson believed, "the country's greatness emanated from its people, not from its government."

"Jackson was the great conservative populist of American history, and his story bears study at a time when the country seems receptive to a well-crafted brand of conservative populism."

"Indeed," Mr. Merry continues, "conservative populism is the essence of the Tea Party—opposed to big, intrusive government; angry about the corporate bailouts of the late Bush and early Obama administrations; fearful of the consequences of fiscal incontinence; suspicious of governmental favoritism; wary of excessive global ambition."

"These concerns and fears were Jackson's concerns and fears 180 years ago when he became President, and his greatest legacy is his constant warning that governmental encroachments would lead to precisely the kinds of problems that are today besieging the country. That legacy deserves attention."

Mr. Merry also admires Thomas Jefferson. He wrote:

"Jackson was of course a Democrat, but the Democratic Party of that era was almost the polar opposite of today's version."

"The 19th-century party emerged from the politics of Thomas Jefferson, who despised the governing Federalists of the early Republic for their elitist tendencies and push for concentrated Federal power."

"Jefferson brought forth new political catchphrases: small government,

strict construction of the Constitution, States' rights, reduced taxes, less intrusion into the lives of citizens.

"His administration, historian Joyce Appleby wrote, would speak for 'the rational, self-improving, independent man who could be counted on to take care of himself and his family if only intrusive institutions were removed.'"

Then Mr. Merry goes on and says about Jackson: "Jackson knew that big government could always be manipulated to benefit the few at the top, especially those who worked or formerly worked for the government and big government contractors."

Merry wrote: "Jackson's most penetrating political insight was that concentrated governmental power always leads to corruption and abuse. The way to prevent this, he believed, was to maintain a diffusion of power and keep it as close to the people as possible."

"It wasn't that ordinary folks were less likely to abuse power; human nature applied to all. But if power were spread out through the polity, it couldn't be directed toward special favors and privileges for those who always managed to get their hands on power when it was available in sufficient increments. The playing field would be level."

Of course the thing Jackson is most remembered for as President is his veto of a federally run national bank.

"The President wasted no time in vetoing legislation, daring his political opponents to make the most of it. Few documents in the American political literature capture conservative populism with the verve and power of Jackson's veto message. In it he portrayed the bank as a government-sponsored monopoly that employed the money of taxpayers to enhance the power, the privileges and wealth of a very few Americans and foreigners—'chiefly the richest class'—who owned stock in the bank and worked for it."

"If government is to grant such gratuities, he said, 'Let them not be bestowed on the subjects of a foreign government nor upon a designated and favored class of men in our own country.'"

"Rather, he added, such favors should be granted in such way as to 'let each American in turn enjoy the opportunity to profit by our bounty.'"

Finally, Merry applies the Jackson philosophy the Dodd-Frank bill and similar legislation, which, he says, Jackson would have opposed, and says Jackson "would expel Wall Street henchmen from the government, particularly if they came from Goldman Sachs."

He also wrote that "Jackson would be aghast that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac still exist. Kill 'em, he would demand."

"The whole story of these government-sponsored enterprises would scandalize him—government guarantees that amount to government subsidies that are then used to lobby the government for ever more economic leverage."

He has very accurately described the big government, big business duopoly that runs this country today. I urge all of my colleagues and others to read the Robert Merry article about Andrew Jackson in the October issue of the *American Spectator* Magazine.

CONGRESSIONAL OUT OF POVERTY CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise as the founder and the co-chair of the Congressional Out of Poverty Caucus to continue to sound the alarm every week that there are millions of Americans in need all across America. They need our help and they need our support.

Imagine for a moment if the entire population of 24 States in America were living in poverty. How would our Nation respond? We would respond as we do in any emergency, mobilizing to provide these people and families with adequate food, clothing and shelter. We would come together as a Nation and work to solve the crisis of poverty.

We know that nearly 47 million people live in poverty in America now, today. That's essentially the entire population of 24 States of this country. The emergency is real, and the crisis is happening each and every day in every city and every town across America.

But we are not mobilizing to solve this crisis of poverty. We are not directing Federal, State and local resources to help these men, women and children.

Mr. Speaker, we are really failing those living in and facing poverty. If you are facing or living in poverty, something as basic as eating is not a guarantee, and millions go to bed hungry every night.

This Sunday, October 16, is recognized as World Food Day. On Sunday, of course, we all should take a moment and be grateful that many are food secure, but we need to think about the nearly 15 percent of households and over 16 million children in America who are food insecure.

In fact, beyond Sunday, I hope that every Member of Congress joins me and other members of the Congressional Out of Poverty Caucus later this month in the 2011 Food Stamp Challenge. Once again, as several of us did a couple of years ago, I challenge my colleagues to live for a week on what a person on food stamps lives on; that is, \$4.50 a day, and that's \$1.50 a meal. So I hope you join us in that effort, my colleagues.

Experience is often the best teacher, and I bet that even a few days on living on what a person on food stamps survives on day in and day out might just bring us together to work to address the crisis of poverty.

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We know what we need to do, really. The pathway to addressing the crisis of

poverty, to boosting our stagnating economy and reducing long-term deficits is the same one: create stable living-wage jobs.

The most effective antipoverty program is an effective jobs program. When a family in poverty gains a living-wage job with good benefits, the family stops relying on government services, and that family begins to pay into the tax base instead of drawing from it. When jobs are created, it boosts demand, which helps to create even more jobs, which is what tax cuts for the wealthy, quite frankly, have always failed to accomplish. So we must come together and pass the President's American Jobs Act and support those initiatives that create stable living-wage jobs.

But while we work to create new jobs, we cannot forget that there are millions of Americans who are our most vulnerable. There are millions who face hunger, millions who have been looking for a job for more than 99 weeks, and millions of Americans who are losing their homes and struggling to keep their version of the American Dream alive. We must protect the vital safety net programs that support these people in these very hard times from draconian and shortsighted budget cuts by the so-called supercommittee. We cannot balance the budget on the backs of our most vulnerable.

Poverty is real. It's rural and it's urban. People of all backgrounds, all ethnic backgrounds, are poor in our country. And so I hope we can finally, at least on this issue, end the extreme partisanship and really stand united in a bipartisan way and as a nation to create jobs and to address the crisis of poverty ravaging our Nation.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST GARRETT FANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, 40 years from now, a beloved high school history teacher at Tahoe High School named Garrett Fant should be celebrating his retirement surrounded by generations of his students and his children and grandchildren. They would have all told affectionate stories about how Mr. Fant inspired them or helped them and wished him a happy and well-deserved retirement.

Unfortunately, history has willed a different story. Army Specialist Garrett Fant instead returned to Lake Tahoe last week as a fallen hero at the age of 21. This young man sacrificed all those years, all those memories, all those pleasures—and all that life—in the service of his country.

He loved the Army, and he had a plan for his life—he'd serve his country as a soldier for 20 years, and then he would come and serve his community as a high school history teacher. From everything I've learned about Garrett