

For over 90 years, Planned Parenthood has provided comprehensive preventive and primary health care to people, primarily the low-income, uninsured, and Medicaid recipients. Last year, 3 million people across America—that is 1 percent of our population—relied on Planned Parenthood's 800 health centers for cancer screenings, family planning, and annual exams.

Now the House Republicans are arguing we have to stop funding Planned Parenthood because that is a way to prevent abortion. Well, let me say, we have to understand that the law for over 30 years in America has made it clear—an amendment offered by a Congressman from Illinois, Henry Hyde, made it clear—that no Federal funds can be used for abortion services except in the most extreme and restricted cases: rape, incest, or where the mother's life is at stake. That has been the law. It has not been changed. It was not changed under this President or previous Presidents. That has been, since the time of Henry Hyde, the guiding policy of this land and there is no one to suggest that it be changed. Every dollar received by Planned Parenthood from the Federal Government is carefully restricted so that it cannot be used for abortion services.

Planned Parenthood does provide abortion counseling but only for 3 percent of their activities. Ninety-seven percent of their activities have nothing to do with it, and not a penny of the abortion counseling services can come from Federal funds except in the most restricted circumstances under the Hyde amendment. Ninety percent of Planned Parenthood's activities are basically preventive.

Let me tell my colleagues, if we don't allow women of limited means and with no insurance access to family planning counseling and services, it means there will be more unintended pregnancies and, sadly, more abortions. It is estimated that if we did not have title X funding in Illinois, if we didn't provide this kind of assistance for women in lower income categories, we would have 24 percent more abortions because of unintended pregnancies. So if what the House Republicans are seeking to do is to reduce the number of abortions, they are doing it exactly the wrong way. Providing information and counseling to women so they can plan their families and not end up with unintended pregnancies is a good way to reduce the number of abortions. That, to me, is as clear as possible. Yet they seem to be tied in knots when it comes to this and don't understand this basic causal connection.

Last year, with the help of Federal dollars, Planned Parenthood health centers performed 1 million cervical exams, 800,000 breast exams, and 4 million tests and treatments for sexually transmitted infections such as HIV. If Planned Parenthood is prohibited from receiving Federal funding, which is the issue that will be on the floor, most of their health centers would be forced to

close. Then what happens to the millions of women and others across America who rely on their services?

Let me tell my colleagues one story that I think demonstrates why this is a critical vote. It comes from a Planned Parenthood clinic in Aurora, IL. A woman in her early forties was uninsured because she lost her job. Her daughter suggested she go to Planned Parenthood for her annual checkup. During the woman's routine breast exam, a 4 centimeter by 4 centimeter lump was found in her breast. That is a sizable lump. The providers at Planned Parenthood helped the woman get a mammogram and connected her with an oncologist. Thankfully, the cancerous lump was removed, and the woman recovered completely. That woman went back to the Aurora Planned Parenthood to thank them and to let them know that without that care, she could have died. So when it gets down to this vote, it literally is a matter of life and death.

I hope those who feel strongly about one issue or the other will also feel strongly about the right of every person to have access to quality care whether they are rich or poor. Planned Parenthood provides that care in my State and across the Nation.

The other amendment is also going to relate to health care. I find it hard to believe that at this moment in time the Republicans are suggesting we should repeal health care reform. This morning, we had a town meeting, and in our town meeting was a group of young people who came from Illinois and who are recovering or in treatment for cancer. These are brave young children and young adults who are battling this disease. I asked them, when someone suggested repealing health care reform, what they would think about a provision in health care reform, which we insisted on, which said that no health insurance company can discriminate against an American under the age of 18 for a preexisting condition. Well, they all cheered because they know, having had cancer in their lives, if they go out on the open market, the cost of their health care and health insurance, if they can buy it, would be prohibitively expensive.

The health care reform we passed here prohibits health insurance companies from discriminating against those children under the age of 18 for preexisting conditions. Those who want to repeal it basically want to take away that protection.

We also know many families raising children of college age get worried because the kids may not have health insurance while they are looking for jobs. We extend the family coverage of people up to the age of 27 so they can stay under their family policy when they get out of college. That gives peace of mind to a lot of families that as their young son or daughter is out taking a part-time job or internship or a trip around the world, they are going to have health insurance until the age of

27. Repealing the law, which is what we will vote on here on the floor, will remove that protection.

Also, when it comes to Medicare, the prescription drug program has a gap in it called the doughnut hole. A lot of seniors with the need for expensive prescription drugs find, after a few months, no coverage from the government. They have to turn around and reach in their savings account and pay out thousands of dollars before that protection coverage resumes. That doughnut hole—the gap—is being closed by this bill. Those who want to repeal health care reform will repeal our efforts to make sure people have this access to the kind of health care and prescription drugs they need to survive and be strong and independent.

I think it is a very clear vote. I have said before that I am open to revisiting health care reform, reforming health care reform, making sure it works the way we intended it to work. As I have said before, the only perfect law I am aware of was written on stone tablets and carried down a mountain by Senator Moses. Every other effort since has been a human effort full of frailties and flaws, and we should always try to make it better. But the notion of wiping the slate clean and repealing health care reform would be a step backward for America. It would acknowledge that the 60 million uninsured Americans will have their ranks swell from others who can't afford to pay for health insurance and certainly can't buy good-quality health insurance today.

I encourage my colleagues to vote no on this amendment to repeal health care reform. We don't need to leave so many American families vulnerable, but we do need to have protections against health insurance companies which too often discriminate against those who need protection the most.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kansas.

HONORING BOB DOLE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I am a firm believer in the view that an individual can make a difference. I am a firm believer that what happens in Washington, DC, is important in our Nation's history and what goes on in our country, but the reality is we change the world one person at a time. That individual is how we make life better.

Earlier this week, on Tuesday morning, I was on the National Mall near the World War II Memorial, and I was there for the dedication of a plaque honoring an individual who made a tremendous difference in the lives of many and made a tremendous difference in the life of our Nation. It was the moment in which a plaque was unveiled recognizing Senator Bob Dole for his contribution—in fact, his efforts and leadership—in seeing that the World War II Memorial was built. Clear

from those who spoke and from what I know of the subject, the World War II Memorial would not be available for us as a nation today in the absence of that individual, Bob Dole, who led the efforts.

There is much in Bob Dole's career here in Washington, DC, as a Member of this body, of the U.S. Senate, that we can heap accolades upon him for, but certainly one of them I know he is most proud of and certainly one of them I and the American people are most grateful for is his efforts to recognize the 16 million Americans who served their country in World War II. There are only about 2.5 million Americans who served in World War II now living, and we lose hundreds of them every day.

Last week, I was at the World War II Memorial with Kansas World War II veterans welcoming an honor flight and thanking World War II veterans from my home State for their service to our country. The World War II Memorial is a magnificent tribute to the sacrifice many have made before us.

I saw the World War II Memorial. It serves its purpose. I saw the World War II Memorial before it was ever dedicated. I put my walking shoes on and walked down to the World War II Memorial a few days before the official ceremony back in 2004, and I saw the place that says "Kansas," and I thought about Kansans.

I thought of my own dad, who is a World War II veteran who served in northern Africa and up the boot hill of Italy. I tell this story because the World War II Memorial served its purpose. I walked away from the memorial and used my cell phone to call my dad back home in Plainville, KS. Unfortunately, I got the answering machine at my parents' home, but from a son's point of view, I conveyed the message to my dad: Dad, I am at the World War II Memorial. I respect you, I thank you for your service, and I love you. It is something that sons don't often say to their parents, but it is something that we as Americans—something that the World War II Memorial brings out in us not just to our parents but to all World War II veterans: We respect you, we thank you for your service, and we love you.

We had the opportunity on Tuesday to pay tribute to a special World War II veteran, Bob Dole. One of the aspects of Bob Dole's service to his country certainly in the military as well as here in the Senate, here as an American, was to take care of those who served with him, and not only in World War II. He has been the caring and compassionate guide for all of us as we try to make certain that no military service goes unrewarded and that no commitment that was made to those who serve our country is forgotten.

So I am here today to pay tribute really to all World War II veterans, to all our military men and women now serving, and to those veterans of other wars, but to especially pay tribute to

Bob Dole, who recognized and continues to recognize throughout his life the value of service to country and the value of service to other veterans. That plaque is a special reminder that Bob Dole made it possible for all of us as Americans to pay tribute to that generation and is a loving reminder for those who served that we are a grateful nation. It is important that we never forget those who gave us the opportunities to live the lives we live today.

While there are, again, much for which we could congratulate him and express our gratitude to him, I hold him in the highest esteem for his military service.

Sixty-six years ago today, April 14, 1945, young Bob Dole was wounded in northern Italy. He lay on the field in blood and mud for 9 hours. He was rescued. He was returned to home. The people of his hometown raised money. I still remember the photograph of a cigar box in the drugstore into which people back in those difficult times put their dollars and their quarters and their pennies to raise money for Bob Dole's rehabilitation. He was able to access the services in Battle Creek, MI, of a VA hospital.

Amazingly to me, three future Senators who served in World War II ended up in that hospital at the same time. Our own colleague Senator INOUE, our previous colleague Senator Hart, and our previous colleague Bob Dole were all at the hospital at the same time recovering from their wounds in service to their country.

So it is today that I recognize an aspect of Bob Dole's life—most important, his willingness to sacrifice his life and his service to his country as a member of the 10th Mountain Division; his courage and dedication to his ability to reteach himself, to relearn to write, to bathe, to eat, to become a productive member of our society, and to lead our country in so many ways. I was honored to be present on Tuesday, 2 days ago, in which a grateful nation said: We thank you for your efforts in recognizing other veterans, in the creation and development of the efforts to see that the World War II Memorial, so long in waiting, is now on the National Mall.

Tom Brokaw, the author of the book "The Greatest Generation," was the master of ceremonies on Tuesday, and he concluded his remarks on Tuesday morning by telling the story of Bob Dole raising money for the World War II Memorial. There are no public funds, no Treasury funds in the building of that memorial. Senator Dole and others raised the dollars from private sources to build the memorial. He tells the story of Bob Dole going to California and meeting with a wealthy Hollywood mogul asking for money to build the World War II Memorial. According to Tom Brokaw, the mogul said, "I am not interested. I have other priorities." Bob Dole's response to the mogul, to the noncontributor, was, "When I was 22, I had other priorities

too. I went to war." Bob Dole went to war and served his country every day thereafter.

Senator Dole in his remarks concluded by saying, "I am the most optimistic man in America today." We ought to be optimistic because we have individuals such as Bob Dole who have served our country. Today we recognize that service, 66 years ago, April 14, 1945, in northern Italy.

I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING KEITH PREWITT

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise, once again, to continue the tradition started in the last Congress by my friend and colleague, the Senator from Delaware, Senator Kaufman, to recognize another great Federal employee.

I think this particular recognition is critically important, since last week this Congress came to the brink, unfortunately, of shutting down the Federal Government, which would have had a dramatic effect upon literally 800,000 Federal employees, many of whom toil tirelessly, oftentimes in the proverbial vineyards, trying to serve the American people. It is my hope that later today the House, and we in the Senate, will pass what perhaps is an imperfect compromise—and every compromise is a bit imperfect—that will continue the operations of this Federal Government through the balance of the fiscal year. It is appropriate that today we continue this tradition, where we single out for recognition on the floor of this Senate one of the Federal employees who continues to provide service to Americans.

The exemplary Federal worker I am referring to this week is Keith Prewitt, the Deputy Director and 27-year veteran of the U.S. Secret Service. Mr. Prewitt is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Secret Service, including its 6,700 employees, with a budget of about \$1.5 billion.

Mr. Prewitt also oversees protection of the President and the Vice President of the United States, as well as visiting heads of State. He has an impressive resume that includes handling security during three Presidential campaigns, two White House details, and overseeing trips protecting American officials in more than 110 countries.

Mr. Prewitt was first drawn to a life of public service when he was in high school in the 1960s in Memphis, TN. He met a local Memphis police officer who had encouraged him to obey the city curfew, stay safe and out of trouble. Mr. Prewitt said this police officer inspired him to enter public service. Coincidentally, he went on to become a