

Family caregivers—who are typically women—will benefit from new supports that help them care for their loved ones while also taking care of themselves.

Mr. Speaker, as the great Progressive Hubert Humphrey said:

“The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick; the needy and the handicapped.”

By voting to repeal the ACA, my colleagues are failing that test, Mr. Speaker. They are failing that moral test.

DON'T LET BAD POLITICS DRIVE BAD POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) for 3 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, just to set the record straight, I'm a family physician and the first female doctor in the Congress.

Just less than 2 weeks ago, the Supreme Court issued a final ruling that the health care reform law is, in fact, constitutional. It is now the law of the land.

Despite this, today my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are revisiting old political battles instead of using the final weeks in this session to fully implement a current law that will protect the health of every American, instead of creating jobs during a time when unemployment is at a persistent high, instead of strengthening the American economy and ensuring that taxes on middle class families are not raised.

I have heard the scare tactics and spin that my colleagues are using to mislead the American public. The truth is this: repealing the health care reform bill would set this country back on a course no American—Republican or Democrat—wants to go back to.

With the list of horrible consequences, H.R. 6079 reads like a dishonor roll.

The Republicans' repeal of health care reform will raise taxes on 18 million middle-class people.

More than 6 million young adults will lose the option of being covered under their parents' health care plans.

More than 5 million seniors will pay more in prescription drugs, leaving many having to choose between paying their rent, food, or medicine.

129 million Americans, 17 million of whom are children with so-called pre-existing disease, which before health care reform included acne and pregnancy, may be denied health care coverage when they need it, and 33 million currently uninsured Americans will stay among the ranks of the uninsured.

More than 32 million seniors and 54 million other Americans will pay more for mammograms, colonoscopies, annual wellness exams, and other often lifesaving preventive care that detects cancers and diseases at their earliest stages when they are most treatable.

105 million Americans would again have lifetime limits on their health insurance, which often puts health care services out of reach when people need it the most. Also, 15 million Americans would be dropped from their insurance companies altogether.

Many of the provisions of the law may never get funded that would close the shameful gaps in health care that cause people of color, the poor of every race and ethnicity, even those who may be Republican or Tea Party, rural Americans and those who live in our Nation's territories, to die in excess numbers from preventable deaths and cost the country billions of dollars every year. There's nothing appropriate, just, fair, or worthy in this attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. It turns back progress. It closes a door to wellness that is now just being opened to over 30 million Americans. It sets this Nation on a path that is unhealthy and less financially secure, and it threatens our position of leadership in the world.

Even though we know this is just an empty exercise, that it's not going anywhere, we do have the opportunity to stand together and do the right thing to not let bad politics drive bad policy. When the bill comes up for a vote, vote “no” on H.R. 6079.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan) at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi David Algaze, Havurat Yisrael Synagogue, Forest Hills, New York, offered the following prayer:

God, from Whom all blessings flow, bless this assembly to steer this great Nation to the prominence You bestowed upon her; a land where even a humble bicycle messenger can soar to serve in this Hall, where every man has dignity and the capacity to prosper, where the ignorant can reach knowledge and the persecuted sanctuary. Move it from finiteness to infinity, from constriction to amplitude, from isolation to leadership, from cynicism to faith. Uphold its pre-eminence among the nations, for its message of freedom is beneficial to all men.

Let us pray for wisdom, not passion; for knowledge, not shallowness; for truth, not trend; for enduring amity to allies and steadfast stand against its foes.

Bring us the day when all men shall turn to one another in pleasantness, when they combine regardless of differences in a union under Your reign, as the prophet Zachariah proclaimed: “On that day, God shall be One, and His Name one.”

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COHEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI DAVID ALGAZE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TURNER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. TURNER of New York. Madam Speaker, fellow Members, I am privileged to have had the honor of inviting Rabbi David Algaze here to lead us in the benediction. Rabbi Algaze serves as the senior rabbi of Havurat Yisrael Synagogue in Forest Hills, Queens, a position he has held since founding the congregation in 1981.

Rabbi Algaze has always held a commitment to academics both as a student and as a teacher. He holds multiple master's degrees and has served as a professor in all levels of academia. He is a former president of the Association of Sephardic Rabbis of America, and is the founder and president of the World Committee for the Land of Israel.

He has always been a strong advocate for the Jewish community in Queens and throughout New York. An ardent supporter of the State of Israel, Rabbi Algaze continues to fight to ensure its safety, security, and well-being. A prime example of these efforts is his work to educate the world about the current situation in Iran and the threat it poses to Israel and the United States.

A scholar, educator, and pillar of religious leadership in our community, he has been a terrific friend to me and has always been there for all those in need.

I thank you, Rabbi Algaze.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 further requests

for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RICE UNIVERSITY—HOUSTON, TEXAS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, late one summer night a few years ago, I boarded a red-eye flight back to Houston. I saw college students on the plane, and I expected the worst. I was wrong, however. As soon as the plane took off, these athletes broke out their books, and they studied for the rest of the flight. I was impressed by this group of considerate, smart, focused, and driven student athletes. No surprise, they were the Owls baseball team from Rice University.

Rice was named after Massachusetts-born businessman William Marsh Rice, a transplanted Yankee who was successful in Houston, Texas. He chartered the Rice Institute. Today, Rice University is the home of 5,000 students. Its achievements make Houston proud—artificial heart research, structural chemical analysis, and space science, just to name a few. And the Rice Owls baseball team gives Houston a baseball team we can be proud of. And just yesterday, Rice was named one of the top 100 universities in the world by the Center for World University Rankings.

I want to congratulate Rice president, Dr. Leebron, his wonderful educators, and his students for an amazing 100 years of excellence and education.

And that's just the way it is.

STUDENT VETERANS ACADEMIC COUNSELING ENHANCEMENT ACT

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. After returning from Iraq, John started college. He didn't pick a major right away, instead, exploring different subjects. But he struggled. It was hard for him to focus; and after what he had been through, he couldn't relate to his classmates. Soon, he had used up his GI Bill benefits and couldn't afford to graduate.

What John's story tells us is that even though we vigorously train our soldiers, we give veterans little guidance to succeed in school. So I'm introducing the Student Veterans Academic Counseling Enhancement Act, endorsed by the American Legion, the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This bill provides regular one-on-one academic counseling to GI Bill students no matter where they go to school, and it tracks veteran graduation rates to help ensure academic and career success. This Student Veterans Act will ensure taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly, while helping veterans graduate and get good jobs. We owe it to those who have sacrificed so much for us, our veterans.

REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

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

Mr. BENISHEK. Madam Speaker, in upholding the President's health care law, the Supreme Court identified the law as a \$675 billion tax increase on America's working families and reminds us that we cannot depend on courts to fix the mistakes that Congress has made.

I know something about health care. I've been a doctor for 30 years taking care of patients in northern Michigan. I know the President's plan is not solving our health care problems. In fact, it's making them worse.

The law hurts seniors by cutting more than \$500 billion from Medicare. The law creates a board of 15 Washington bureaucrats to decide how to reduce Medicare costs. The law contains more than 13,000 pages of new regulations that will suffocate our small businesses.

The President's law never addressed rising health care costs. America has a great health care system, but the problem is it costs too much. I recommend we enact a step-by-step approach that lowers cost through free market competition and strengthens the doctor-patient relationship.

The American people have been clear—they don't like this terrible law. I urge all Members to support the Repeal of Obamacare Act, so we can scrap this law and work together on real health care reforms that actually lower costs and make health care more affordable.

LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Leadership Alliance.

The Leadership Alliance, established by Brown University in 1992, is a national academic consortium of leading research universities and minority-serving institutions with the mission of developing underrepresented students into outstanding leaders and role models in academia, business, and the public sector.

Through an organized program of research, networking, and mentorship at critical transitions along the entire academic training pathway, the Leadership Alliance prepares young scientists and scholars for graduate training and professional apprenticeships.

To date, the consortium has mentored more than 2,600 undergraduates, including 33 Rhode Islanders. Brown University has mentored 386 Leadership Alliance participants, 35 percent of whom have received a graduate-level degree.

I am proud to stand in support of this initiative that identifies, trains, and

mentors talented underrepresented and underserved students.

I congratulate and commend the Leadership Alliance, including Brown University, for 20 years of mentoring a diverse and competitive research and scholarly workforce.

□ 1210

REPEAL OBAMACARE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, in 2009, President Obama rightly said, "The last thing you want to do is raise taxes in the middle of a recession." Yet the President's signature legislative achievement, ObamaCare, hinges on 21 separate tax increases, 12 of which hit the middle class.

ObamaCare and its taxes have already proved crushing to the economy, along with broken promises to spur job creation, reduce debt, cut premium costs, and allow patients to keep their coverage and physicians. Family premiums are up over \$1,000, 20 million people are at risk of losing the doctors they like, 48 percent of businesses aren't hiring to brace for rising health costs, and by 2021, the CBO estimates there will be 800,000 fewer jobs because of ObamaCare.

The job of Congress is not to defend failure. ObamaCare makes it harder for job creators to hire and fails in its most basic objectives. Thus, we have a duty to spare the American people from its \$1.76 trillion bill by fully repealing this legislation.

NOMINATION OF JOHN T. FOWLKES, JR. TO THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN TENNESSEE

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, yesterday the United States Senate approved the nomination of President Obama, upon my recommendation, of John T. Fowlkes, Jr. to be the new Federal District Court Judge in the Western District of Tennessee. It was a moment of bipartisanship, where Senators McCONNELL and REID worked to get the nomination up, and my Republican Senators, CORKER and ALEXANDER, sponsored and supported that nomination.

Judge Fowlkes is an outstanding jurist and was an astounding attorney. He was a public defender, a State prosecutor, a Federal prosecutor, a chief administrative officer for our county government, and a current criminal court judge.

I empaneled a group of lawyers—bipartisan, just about every representation you can imagine—to advise me on the person to recommend. Everybody felt John Fowlkes had the temperament and disposition, judicial experience, and was the right person for the job.