

I was proud to recommend him. I'm pleased the President nominated him. I'm thankful the Senate acted in a bipartisan way so we can work down our caseload. We need more judges, and the Senate needs to approve more.

#### THE WRONG PRESCRIPTION

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, we've long known that President Obama's takeover of our health care is bad medicine. And now that the Supreme Court has determined that it's one of the largest tax increases in American history, we've confirmed that it's bad policy.

As I travel up and down the Ohio River, I hear repeatedly that this disastrous law must be repealed and replaced with commonsense, patient-centered solutions that will grow our economy.

Today, the House will vote, once again, to repeal this law because it's full of broken promises covered up in empty political rhetoric.

President Obama promised us that this law would lower health care costs, but now we know it will cost more than double what was expected, almost \$2 trillion.

We were promised that the law would create jobs, but 40 percent of American businesses tell a different story.

And finally, we were promised that we'd be able to keep our doctors, but a recent survey says that 83 percent of doctors have considered quitting over the law.

Free market and patient-centered solutions are not only good policies, but they are also the correct medicines for health care reform, not President Obama's Big Government takeover.

#### TEXAS' DECISION NOT TO EXPAND MEDICAID AND THE VOTE TO REPEAL THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, by refusing to expand Medicaid to cover millions of sick, low-income adults, Texas Governor Rick Perry has joined the growing list of Republican Governors who have decided to put partisan politics before the health of their residents.

6.2 million Texans, including 1.2 million children, lack health insurance, the highest number of any State in the Nation. Medicaid expansion would drastically decrease Texas' uninsured rate from an astonishing 25 percent to just 9 percent.

Without the Affordable Care Act, millions of uninsured Americans will continue to seek primary care in our Nation's overcrowded emergency rooms, leaving taxpayers, property

owners, to foot the bill. As a nonpracticing registered nurse, I am all too familiar with this scenario, which has placed a tremendous burden on our Nation's hospital systems.

Madam Speaker, the highest court in the Nation has spoken, and it's time for us to move forward for the American people.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF SPECIALIST ANDREW SMITH

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Specialist Andrew Smith of the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

Andrew grew up in my hometown of Ooltewah, Tennessee, and enlisted in the Army after graduating from Lee University. On his first patrol in Kandahar, an IED detonated near him and he lost both of his legs.

I first met Andrew where he was recovering at Walter Reed, where I was impressed by his spirit, curiosity, and determination. His wife, Tori, was by his side the entire time and keeps a constant vigil. Andrew's mother has been active as well, ensuring he receives the best care possible.

A particularly touching tribute is an essay written by Andrew's sister, Katie. She writes:

He was aware of the risks that were involved in being a soldier, but he was so devoted to protecting our freedom that he was willing to sacrifice in a major way. Even though he is away from the war, he is still fighting.

Katie's essay reminds us that our freedom and safety depend on heroes like Andrew Smith who put their lives on the line to defend us. I am humbled to recognize Andrew, and I am pleased his family is able to join him here today in the House gallery.

I will submit Katie's essay for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD later. And I speak for all Americans when I say that we are forever grateful.

#### STOP THE POLITICAL THEATER

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. On January 19, 2011, the Republicans voted to repeal ObamaCare. Thirty other times on the floor since then, they have voted to repeal ObamaCare, or part of ObamaCare. And today, for the 31st time, they will vote to repeal ObamaCare.

How about doing something productive for the American people in terms of lowering health insurance and health care costs instead of your political theater here?

The Supreme Court has ruled. Let's roll up our sleeves and improve what is the law of the land.

I propose that today we should vote on my bipartisan amendment to take away the antitrust immunity of your

friends, the insurance industry, so they can't collude to drive up prices, they can't collude to restrict coverage and divide up markets and make it more expensive for all Americans. The Consumers Union says this would mean a 10 to 25 percent drop in everybody's health insurance in this country.

Let's do something real. Stop the political theater. Let's help the American people get affordable health care and health insurance.

#### REPEAL OBAMACARE

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 6079. It hasn't taken very long for the weight of ObamaCare to become a significant drag on our economy and our family budgets.

Just 2 years since it was enacted, there are already 12,825 pages of ObamaCare-related regulations and notices published in the Federal Register. Nobody knows what the final number of regulations will be, and let's hope that we never find out.

It is this high level of uncertainty that is preventing many businesses in my district from hiring new workers and growing. This is particularly true among small businesses looking to expand. We must repeal this law now that is a disincentive for any small business to grow.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for repeal.

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#### A DEMOCRACY ABOUT PEOPLE AND NOT DOLLARS

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

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning not to advocate a Democratic position nor to refute a Republican idea. Instead, I rise to highlight a fundamental threat to our ability to have that important debate. I refer, of course, to the hundreds of millions—indeed, billions—of dollars that will influence who comprises this otherwise democratic body, which may very well determine who occupies the Presidency next.

In each of our hearts, those of us in this Chamber called to represent people know that that cannot possibly be right. That is why I will cosponsor two possible constitutional amendments to reverse the damage of Citizens United—H.J. Res. 111 and H.J. Res. 78.

This should not be partisan. Today, it looks like the dollars are behind the Republicans; but tomorrow, that may be different. So let's join, let's stand together for our democracy and back a constitutional amendment to make our democracy about people, not about dollars.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION  
OF RICE UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Rice University's centennial.

One hundred years ago, in Houston, Texas, the Rice Institute opened its doors to 48 male and 29 female students. Since that time, it has grown to be one of the most respected universities in all of the world.

World history has been made on Rice's campus. As all Texans know, in September of 1962, President John F. Kennedy stood in Rice stadium and committed a Nation, founded by explorers, to the greatest exploration in human history—a Moon landing. Space City USA was born at Rice.

I am a proud alumnus of Rice University, class of 1985, Jones College. What gives Rice such a special place in my heart is an uncommon feeling—a feeling of family and home—that transcends my 4 years on campus. It's a feeling you can see in this picture of my son, Grant, and me on campus this year.

Happy centennial, Rice. I can't wait for the next 100 years. Go Owls!

MONTROSE SEARCH AND RESCUE  
TEAM

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montrose Search and Rescue team.

For over 65 years, Montrose Search and Rescue has been conducting lifesaving operations throughout the Angeles National Forest and the neighboring areas. These brave men and women have risked their own lives to rescue stranded hikers, victims of natural disasters, and anyone in need of assistance.

Two weeks ago, their heroism was on full display. The team spotted a little girl who was face down, drowning in a pool of running water in the forest. The 18-month-old girl was unconscious and had stopped breathing when they pulled her out of the water. Thanks to them, this little girl was brought back to life to the unimaginable relief and gratitude of her family.

That young girl, along with so many others, is alive today because of the heroic actions of the Montrose Search and Rescue team. They do all this for their community without asking anything in return, and their humbling dedication to service and their selfless desire to help those in need deserve our respect and gratitude.

So, today, I rise to say thank you, Montrose Search and Rescue, for the great work that you do and for the lives that you save through your efforts.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE  
DESIGNATION FOR THE UNIVER-  
SITY OF KANSAS

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

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, many of the smartest minds in America work tirelessly every day to discover a cure for cancer. I am happy to say we will soon take another step towards the ultimate goal of winning the battle against cancer, and it will happen right in the Kansas City community as the University of Kansas Cancer Center will soon receive a National Cancer Institute designation by the National Institutes of Health.

This NCI designation at the KU Cancer Center will affirm that the highest quality of cancer research will be conducted at the University of Kansas and that this research will directly lead to improved cancer care and lifesaving treatments across the country.

Madam Speaker, nearly 1.7 million Americans this year will be diagnosed with the horrible disease of cancer. It touches all of our lives personally, and we must remain committed as a Nation to ultimately winning this war against cancer. That's why I am proud today to stand in support of the University of Kansas' efforts in this battle and to congratulate all involved for this important milestone.

REPEALING THE AFFORDABLE  
CARE ACT

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my Republican colleagues to move beyond the attacks on health care for Americans and to move forward by getting our country back to work.

The majority thinks that it's a badge of honor to claim that it will have had 31 votes to repeal the Affordable Care Act. I completely disagree.

They will have voted 31 times to strip patients of basic protections. They will have voted 31 times to reverse the progress made by the Affordable Care Act, including protecting up to 17 million children who now have coverage even if they have preexisting conditions. In fact, the 31st vote that we will take is nothing more than a reaction to Chief Justice John Roberts' opinion that the law is constitutional. Yet the GOP continues to dispute this. Let's move on.

If they were serious, they would have presented us with a plan 31 votes ago to help us fix any flaws that this law may have. So I plead for the 31st time: let's get back to work.

GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF  
HEALTH CARE IS NOT THE AN-  
SWER

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, the sad reality in our country today is that Americans are faced with skyrocketing health care costs. Rather than address the situation, Democrats passed a \$1 trillion health care takeover that costs too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much.

Americans don't deserve this.

Americans deserve commonsense ideas, like medical liability reform, encouraging health savings accounts, strengthening association health plans, and allowing people to purchase health insurance across State lines—commonsense ideas. These reforms would make health care more affordable and accessible without passing on crushing debt to future generations.

Unlike the current health care law, which has raised taxes, cost jobs, and limited personal control of health care, Americans deserve meaningful and affordable health care reform that will lower costs, protect consumers, and increase accessibility while allowing Americans to control their own health care decisions. This misguided takeover of the health care system is not the answer.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION  
OF RICE UNIVERSITY

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I rise today to congratulate our hometown university, Rice University, for their 100-year celebration—a university known for advancing education in the arts, humanities, and sciences. It is a leading university, and it has been ranked among the top 20 universities in the United States by the U.S. News & World Report every year since the rankings began in 1983.

As a former member of the House Science Committee, I am reminded of their great work in nanotechnology, space, cellular technology, bioinformatics in energy and health, and their collaboration with the Johnson Space Center. I am also delighted that they have decided in years past to eliminate the bar against African American students and to open the opportunities of a grand education to Latinos and African Americans and to young people who have a last name such as Qadeer.

They have a bright light in Dr. Roland Smith, who has led the effort in diversifying their campus, and I was delighted to go and join them in honoring the Honorable Barbara Jordan, one of my predecessors in the 18th Congressional District. They, of course, have a group of astute athletes who have made them proud, and they represent the diversity of America.