

Joyce	Mulvaney	Ryan (OH)
Kilmer	Neal	Sánchez, Linda
Kind	Negrete McLeod	T.
Kinzinger (IL)	Nolan	Sarbanes
Kirkpatrick	Nugent	Schakowsky
Lance	Pallone	Sires
Latham	Pastor (AZ)	Slaughter
Lee (CA)	Paulsen	Stivers
Lewis	Payne	Swalwell (CA)
LoBiondo	Peters (CA)	Terry
Lowenthal	Peters (MI)	Thompson (CA)
Lummis	Peterson	Thompson (MS)
Lynch	Pitts	Thompson (PA)
Maffei	Poe (TX)	Tiberi
Maloney, Sean	Price (GA)	Tipton
Marchant	Radel	Valadao
Matheson	Rahall	Veasey
Matsui	Reed	Velázquez
McCollum	Reichert	Visclosky
McDermott	Renacci	Wittman
McGovern	Ribble	Woodall
McIntyre	Richmond	Yoder
Meehan	Rigell	Young (AK)
Miller, George	Ros-Lehtinen	Rush
Moore	Rush	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Owens

NOT VOTING—23

Beatty	Farr	Messer
Burgess	Gohmert	Nunes
Campbell	Grijalva	Quigley
Clyburn	Johnson, Sam	Shuster
Cohen	Keating	Sinema
Cole	Labrador	Smith (NE)
Duckworth	Markey	Wagner
Duffy	McCarthy (NY)	

□ 1450

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 36

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor to House Resolution 36.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REPEAL OF PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 45.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 679, I call up the bill (H.R. 436) to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 215, the amendment printed in House Report 113-59 is considered adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 45

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF PPACA AND HEALTH CARE-RELATED PROVISIONS IN THE HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010.

(a) PPACA.—Effective as of the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), such Act is repealed, and the provisions of law amended or repealed by such Act) are restored or revived as if such Act had not been enacted.

(b) HEALTH CARE-RELATED PROVISIONS IN THE HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010.—Effective as of the enactment of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152), title I and subtitle B of title II of such Act are repealed, and the provisions of law amended or repealed by such title or subtitle, respectively, are restored or revived as if such title and subtitle had not been enacted.

SEC. 2. BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF THIS ACT.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, as long as such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate shall not exceed 2 hours equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the chair and ranking minority of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

You know, it is just absolutely amazing that we are once again here on the floor to repeal ObamaCare, but it is a necessary step that we find that we have to do.

It is so interesting being out in my district. Whether I am talking to State-elected officials or county-elected officials or talking to those who are employers in our district—those who are job creators—repeatedly we hear from them: this is a bill that turned into a law that is too expensive to afford.

One of the reasons—and I would point this out—this is a copy of the law as published. What it has turned into is 13,000 pages of regulation. Indeed, I wanted to bring that tower of red tape here to the floor today. It is seven feet tall and growing. It was too big to be allowed on the House floor.

It is amazing that much regulation that has come from this 2,700-page bill. Now we find out from The Washington Post and The New York Times that Secretary Sebelius had conversations with some companies and organizations asking them to help fund getting this started.

Why is this happening? Three years ago, we were told it would be an \$800 billion bill. And guess what? When we went to the Budget Committee this year, \$2.6 trillion is the estimated cost of this bill. So insurance—more expensive. It was to save households \$2,500 a year, but instead they're already paying \$3,000 more. And the survey that Chairman MURPHY ran for us in the Energy and Commerce Committee shows that the cost will go anywhere up to about 400 percent, depending on who you are, what group you're in. That's what you're going to see your insurance cost go up to.

We hear from physicians. Harder to get in to see a physician? Yes, it is.

Our goal should be about how do we preserve access to affordable health care for all Americans. Instead, what my friends across the aisle have done is to focus on how do you centralize health care, run up the cost, and decrease access. That is the reason that we are here on the floor today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act because what the Republicans will do is take away all the benefits the American people are already seeing under this law and they will stop the full implementation of it to provide millions of people with health insurance opportunities.

Our Republican colleagues say they want to provide access to health care. They want to do something about people with preexisting conditions. They say they care about stopping discriminatory practices. They want to lower the deficit. They want to stop rising health care costs. This bill, the Affordable Care Act, is the one piece of legislation that takes major steps on these issues.

Republicans offered nothing but opposition over and over again. This is the 37th time the House will vote to repeal the patients' rights bill. From the very beginning, the Republicans opposed it. They said it will kill jobs, and they were wrong. They said the law would drive up health care costs through the roof. They were wrong. We're seeing the slowest growth in health care spending in decades.

They've ignored the significant benefits that are helping tens of millions of people, such as 3 million young adults who have coverage through their parents' plans, 6 million seniors who have saved over \$6 billion on their prescription drugs, 13 million Americans who have received over \$1 billion in rebates from their insurers, over 100 million Americans who have access to free preventive care who no longer face lifetime limits on their coverage. And the Congressional Budget Office still confirms that the law cuts the deficit by \$100 billion in the first decade and more than \$1 trillion in the second.

The Republican Patients' Rights Repeal Act undoes all of these benefits. They add to the deficit, and they send us back to the days when insurance companies were in charge, costs were skyrocketing, and tens of millions either had no coverage—especially if they had preexisting conditions—or coverage that they could depend on.

I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as he may consume to the chairman of the Health Care Subcommittee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS).

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, in two separate forums, I met with members of the Lancaster County and the Chester County Chambers of Commerce, representing dozens of businesses and municipalities across my district, about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Every single one of them had grave concerns with the law. They're confused and deeply concerned about how it will affect their ability to provide care and jobs.

We're only a few months away from implementation of the employer mandate, and there are many unanswered questions. Each employer I talked to had pressing questions, but time and again I had to tell them that I didn't have an answer because HHS, the IRS, or the Department of Labor hadn't issued rules or guidance yet.

□ 1500

This uncertainty is leaving them paralyzed, holding off on hiring and wondering whether they will be able to provide coverage for their employees.

It is not just businesses that are hurting. I heard from school districts operating on tight budgets who said they have no choice but to outsource loyal hourly employees like cafeteria workers and special ed aides, going to part-time work.

Workers are losing their jobs, losing work hours, losing benefits to this bureaucratic nightmare. Let's stop the damage, and let's repeal the train wreck before it occurs.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that our time from the Energy and Commerce Committee be controlled by our subcommittee ranking member, Congressman FRANK PALLONE from the State of New Jersey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. I greatly respect my colleagues on the other side from Tennessee and from Pennsylvania, but I have to say they are simply obstructionists.

This is what we get from the GOP on a daily basis. Nothing happens here in the House of Representatives. We know there is a problem. Historically, there

has been a problem with health care and a lot of people not having insurance or having discriminatory practices or not being able to get on their parents' insurance policy. So we as Democrats came up with a solution, and that solution is working.

We have kids now—almost 6 million or 7 million kids—that are now on their parents' policies. We have a situation where we are plugging up the doughnut hole in Medicare for part D prescription drugs for seniors. We have all kinds of preventive care that is out there relative to women's health. And the list goes on and on. These things are happening. Beginning next year, most Americans will have health insurance.

What do I hear from the other side? They don't want solutions. I'll be honest with my colleagues: if you really care, why don't you make some suggestions, and maybe we can work together. Anything can be improved. I don't say that anything can't be improved.

But, no, they come on the floor, and what do they want to do? Just repeal it, which is not a solution. It basically would eliminate all the progress that we have made in terms of health care.

Yes, costs are not going up as much. And, yes, people are getting rebates if their insurance companies charge them too much. All these things are happening because of the Affordable Care Act.

All I hear from you is: no, obstructionism. No, we have to repeal this because this is such a terrible thing. Bringing in all these distractions about what the Secretary of Health and Human Services is doing.

This is not what you are elected to do. You are not elected to come here and just repeal things and say how bad everything is. You are supposed to come up with solutions. I never hear it from the other side of the aisle. I simply do not hear it, which is why I get very upset the 37th time, the 38th time we are going to vote on the same thing, which is repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to respond.

We trust our constituents and the American people. We don't need government control of this. Certainly we don't need the IRS policing our private health care information. There is nothing affordable about the Affordable Care Act, and that is why we are concerned.

At this point, I want to yield 1 minute to the chairman of our conference, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, from Washington.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, when President Obama's health care proposal became law, he told us that it would lower costs, improve quality, cover everyone with preexisting conditions, and ensure that those under 26 would remain insured.

But today, when we pull back the curtain, the American people see that this law has just made things worse.

The President promised that premiums would go down. In fact, he said families would see an average decrease in premiums by \$2,500. Instead, the average family has seen premiums go up by over \$3,000. And they are hitting young people hard, some facing increases up to 200 percent and many losing insurance.

The President promised those with preexisting health conditions would be covered. Unfortunately, just over 100,000 people enrolled in the program before he declared it ran out of money.

The President promised that his plan would lead to all Americans having health insurance. But CBO already estimates that 30 million people will still be uninsured even after the law is fully implemented.

We need to replace this policy with one that helps Americans.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to our chairman emeritus from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL).

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, this is a prodigious waste of the time of the House working on a bad piece of legislation. I rise today in strong opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

My Republican colleagues are up for the 37th time with this nonsense, and they are fully determined to take away all of the rights that we have given under the Affordable Care Act to the people of the United States.

People are going to go back in the doughnut hole, courtesy of the Republicans. No longer will people be protected against being excluded from insurance because of preexisting conditions. And it is going to be possible now for insurance companies to kick people off insurance plans because they get sick while they have a policy. Kids are not going to go on their parents' policies after they are 26 if we pass this nonsensical legislation.

Einstein said that expecting a different result from things done over and over again is proof of insanity. Well, this is insanity. But worse than that, it is a waste of time of the people in the Congress and the money of the United States citizens who pay our wages.

This is a bad proposal. Vote it down.

Mr. Speaker, it has often been said by many, including everyone from Albert Einstein to Benjamin Franklin, that the very definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results.

We gather here in this Chamber today not to work on behalf of the American people, but instead to partake in our 37th round of insanity—repeal of a law that is already helping our struggling American families.

I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: just what part of helping the American people are you opposed to? Are you content in this preposterous display that is, by its very definition, insanity?

You are reinstating the lifetime cap on coverage for people—including children—telling

them there's nothing more that can be done for them, because their insurance provider said so.

You are ending the closing of the so-called "donut hole" and allowing millions of seniors to see increases in prescription drug costs, amounting to thousands and thousands of dollars in additional burdens on our seniors.

You are eliminating tax credits for more than 4 million American small businesses that stand to benefit from providing coverage for their workers, ensuring they can continue to work and provide for their business in good health and wellness.

You are telling the American people that it's fine for insurance companies to drop them from coverage just because they got sick.

You are returning our American children to the uncertain and vulnerable times when "pre-existing conditions" meant their life and livelihood was less important than the bottom lines of insurance executives.

You are denying care for 6.6 million young people who qualify to stay on their parents' plan until age 26. Is that your preferred way of protecting and promoting the future leaders of our nation?

My friends, all that this 37th repeal vote offers is yet another piece of evidence in proving the newfound insanity of this body, further emulating the "do-nothing" Congress that was the 112th.

This is not what we should be wasting our time with—this is nothing more than political posturing so House Freshmen can make the same foolish mistakes of their most immediate predecessors.

This is not a vote for the American people, rather it is a callous disregard for the health and wellbeing of those who continue to work, each and every day, to make our nation great, provide for their families and ask for nothing more than a fair shot at the American Dream.

I will remind my colleagues that the very best way of protecting the American Dream is by protecting the American people—the very best asset our country holds.

We should be doing the nation's business in a cooperative manner, not working to further divide all of us who are so deeply in need of bipartisanship and unity.

Today's insane and useless vote will bring the total amount of taxpayer dollars wasted on hours upon hours of legislative attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act to \$52.4 million dollars in just three years since it became the law of the land, and just one year since the Supreme Court upheld it and ensured the care and cost-saving measures that all American families deserve.

I ask you, my colleagues, to oppose this insane legislation, end this further waste of taxpayer dollars, and bring this body back to the honest and necessary job we owe to the people we're blessed to represent.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 1 minute to the chairman of the Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee at Energy and Commerce, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the health care bill, indeed, has some good things in it: no lifetime cap, kids on their parents policy, people can't be denied, and some prevention. But good intentions do not guarantee good results.

Because of the guarantee of this bill, we were told it would lower costs; and we are now in a position where it may cost families more, and they won't be able to cover it.

On top of \$835 billion in taxes, our Energy and Commerce Committee did a study. Getting responses from 17 insurance companies, they reported there will be a 96 percent increase in cost for those getting a new policy, 73 percent for those keeping, and some will be as high as 413 percent. Some will see lower costs, but most Americans will see some increase in the health care costs.

That is a reason why we need to repeal this and get back to really reforming health care, keeping the good parts. But Americans cannot afford this. And when it is not affordable, it is not accessible care.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, here we are again voting for the 37th time to repeal the Affordable Care Act, a law the Supreme Court has deemed constitutional. This is nothing more than a feel-good moment for new Members of the GOP who didn't get to vote on repeal in the last Congress.

If the new standard for scheduling votes is to provide wish fulfillment for Members of Congress, then I have a few requests:

If we are going to vote almost 40 times to repeal health care coverage for millions of Americans, I would like to have the chance to vote against the Defense of Marriage Act 40 more times. I had the pleasure to vote against it in 1996. I am sure there is a new generation of Members who would like to vote against it, and I would like to do it again.

Furthermore, I regret being a teenager when the Civil Rights Act was voted on. I would like a chance to lend my support to that landmark law.

To be able to cast a vote to go to war against Nazi Germany would be very satisfying to me.

I have contributed to Social Security my whole life; and since my father was not a Member of Congress in 1932, I would like to vote on his behalf to support the creation of Social Security.

I was a student of history in my youth, and I feel very strongly that the Compromise of 1850 was the point of no return leading to the Civil War. I would like a chance to vote against it.

I ask that the Republican leadership add all of these to the agenda in the weeks to come.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. ENGEL. Clearly, we have plenty of time available for wish fulfillment, rather than substantive measures such as the economy, immigration reform, and putting people back to work.

So I would like an opportunity to vote again on many different things as well.

□ 1510

Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time, I yield 1 minute to a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the gentleman from Georgia, Dr. GINGREY.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, we are once again voting to totally repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare.

Now, the most senior members of the Energy and Commerce Committee from the Democratic side stand up here and say this is the 37th time that we have voted for total repeal. No, it's the third time. We are voting for total repeal for a third time because Republicans and Democrats and 65 percent—young and old—of the people across this country demand total repeal. They know that they don't want the government taking over one-sixth of our economy and Washington bureaucrats imposing a massive tax increase on middle class Americans and small business owners.

As the government becomes more involved in health care, doctors and patients become further removed—more involved, further removed—from their own health care decisions, and this will result in a more expensive and a more dysfunctional system. Patients should have more control of their medical decisions, and reform should be driven at the State level rather than rushing through legislation that we have to read to find out what's in it. Now, Mr. Speaker, small businesswomen and men have to read a stack of rules and regulations 7-feet high to find out that, truly, the devil is in the details.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. As both a physician and a taxpayer, fully repealing ObamaCare is my top priority, and I am proud that we will soon take yet another step toward this critically important goal.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Here we go again, and my colleague from Georgia knows it: 37 times, counting today, that the Republican majority has tried to repeal the Affordable Care Act, a law that was upheld by the Supreme Court, a law that will help not only millions of uninsured but everyone with health insurance because the Affordable Care Act improves coverage.

"Repeal" means that insurance companies can once again deny coverage for preexisting conditions. It means college-aged dependent children will be kicked off their parents' insurance. Medicare beneficiaries will lose access to vital preventative screenings. Also, insurance company practices of the past, which frustrated the insured and drained their savings, will be allowed to return.

The Affordable Care Act means more than 80 percent of premium dollars are

spent on health care. That was in the Affordable Care Act. The law prevents insurance companies from providing their executives extraordinary perks while failing to provide health care to their customers.

But this will never happen again. The repeal of the Affordable Care Act will not be successful. It wasn't successful the first 36 times. It won't be today. That's because the American people need it. The law isn't perfect. The medical device excise tax and the Independent Payment Advisory Board should be addressed. This majority refuses to work with our side to fix the problems. The American people want to see Congress work together to fix problems. What they don't want is more political theater.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), a member of the committee.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. I support repealing the misnamed Affordable Care Act because it is a law that Americans cannot afford.

A recent report from the Energy and Commerce Committee shows that health insurance premiums for small businesses could rise by an astonishing 400 percent. For my home State of Florida, the report notes that individuals enrolled in some current plans could see increases of over 100 percent. In the small group market, we expect to see increases as well. This law is not affordable for individuals or small businesses. The health law tries to hide these new costs through subsidies and tax credits paid for through new taxes and cuts to Medicare.

We need to repeal this job-crushing, premium-rising, government-expanding law. I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 45, and I support repealing this unaffordable act.

Mr. PALLONE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to set the record straight that there is no government takeover in the ACA, which is contrary to what my Republican colleagues are saying.

The ACA is built on expanding private sector coverage by improving options in the individual market and by encouraging employers to provide coverage. The claim that the ACA is a government takeover is totally unfounded. A system built on private insurance, private doctors and private hospitals is not a government takeover.

I yield now 1 minute to my colleague from California (Mrs. CAPPs).

Mrs. CAPPs. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, yet again, in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act as 3 years and 37 repeal attempts later, the majority is still playing politics with the health care of real people.

Thanks to ObamaCare, 27 million American women now have access to preventative health screenings and health care without cost-sharing. They

can receive cancer screenings, annual wellness physicals and contraceptives without extra costs. Seniors in my district saved an average of \$600 last year on prescriptions, and as we close the doughnut hole, the savings will be even greater and families no longer have to worry that their children will be denied insurance due to a preexisting condition.

Repeal would take away these benefits and protections, raising costs for families. It would return us to a broken system, all the while increasing the deficit. It is time to move on. Let's spend our time working on new solutions instead of repeatedly placing partisanship over progress. I urge the defeat of this bill.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 1 minute to our chairman emeritus of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON).

(Mr. BARTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON. I thank the gentlelady from Tennessee.

You've seen the TV commercial about oil filters where somebody brings their car in, and they haven't had their oil changed, and the guy says, Well, they could have paid me before by changing the oil filter or they can pay me later when they bring the car in.

That's why we're here today. We're going to repeal this Act. We can repeal it today or we can repeal it later, but it's going to be repealed.

My friends on the minority side talk about all the good things of it and act like there is no government intervention. There is just a government mandate that you have to have insurance. There is a government mandate that employers have to provide it. There is a government mandate on what has to be included in that coverage. There is a government price control on the price of the premiums. Of course, there is a mandate that everybody in the country has to have insurance, and the IRS can enforce that as a penalty if, in fact, you choose not to participate in that mandated program. Other than that, there is no government involvement in this law.

So, my good friends, I would say: vote with us to repeal it now so we don't have to come back later next year or the year after when health care is in a shambles, and we will repeal it then.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE).

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Today is actually an embarrassment. Today, for the 37th time, we vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act—a messaging vote that is surely dead on arrival when it reaches the Senate.

I would say to my good friend from Texas, you can repeal it in this House 37 more times, and it's going to be just

as dead when it gets over to the Senate.

This is a waste of our time. A CBS analysis last year said that Congress spent 80 hours—2 full weeks of work—on repeal votes that cost the taxpayers \$48 million. Bryce Covert and Adam Peck of Think Progress estimated that, since then, we've spent an additional \$6 million, bringing the total to \$55 million on 37 symbolic votes to repeal the Affordable Care Act and waste our time here on the floor of the Congress. Just think what we could have done with \$55 million. We could make sure college students have access to Federal work study grants. We could keep low-income kids in preschool.

Quit wasting the taxpayers' money and this Congress' time. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings or other audible conversation is in violation of the rules of the House.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time, I yield 1 minute to one of our freshmen, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

□ 1520

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 45, and I thank our leadership for bringing this legislation to the floor because contrary to popular opinion, patients' rights were the ones in jeopardy a few years ago, and that's what we're restoring.

Architects of ObamaCare have said it is "so complicated and if it isn't done right the first time, it will just simply get worse."

By "done right," they really mean that the administration simply has to write enough of the right regulations.

Nearly 20,000 pages of ObamaCare-related regulations are already on the books, including 828 pages that were issued in a single day earlier this year. This tidal wave of regulations should be no surprise to anyone who bothered to read the health care bill before they voted on it.

With the truth of our economic condition and the real contents of the health care bill beginning to sink in, I don't believe there's a better time to consider repealing ObamaCare than right now.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Rather than more rhetoric, I challenge my Republican colleagues to explain to the American people why we should take away the benefits and protections that ObamaCare already provides and will provide; explain to the

125,000 young adults in Illinois that they have to get off their parents' policies, even if they're sick; explain to the 134,000 seniors in Illinois who have saved over \$235 million on their prescription drugs why we need them to pay more for their drugs; and explain to the 1.4 million Illinoisans who will finally have the opportunity to obtain quality, dependable health insurance coverage—sorry, politics trumps expanding their access to health services.

I urge my colleagues to take a stand for the health of the American public. Vote "no" to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time, I yield 1 minute to another of our freshmen, Mr. HOLDING of North Carolina.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare is bad policy for patients, for doctors, for seniors, for young folks, for small businesses, for medical technology and pharmaceutical companies, and for families.

Mr. Speaker, folks in my district tell me time and time again that they are most concerned about the increase in the cost of health care, and ObamaCare does nothing to address those concerns. In fact, recent reports have suggested exactly the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, I think Senator BAUCUS was dead on when he said that he sees a huge "train wreck" coming down the line in regards to ObamaCare.

ObamaCare was shuffled through Congress with back-room deals and false promises. American families deserve better. They deserve to make their own choices about health care, not the government. That is why I'm proud to rise today and join my colleagues in repealing this misguided and misnamed law.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to our Democratic whip, Mr. HOYER from Maryland.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, apparently the Republicans are opposed to ObamaCare.

I know that comes as a shock to America, so we need to tell them one more time or 37 times or maybe a 38th or 39th or 40th or 100th time.

I don't know how many times we have to replay the election. There was an election in which this was one of the principal issues, and the proponent of health care for all Americans was elected by most Americans.

Mr. Speaker, this vote, as we all know, is a waste of our time; it is, however, a political exercise. This will be the 37th vote to repeal health care reform since the Republicans took control of the House. It's exactly the same as the bill that we considered in July. That partisan bill was dead on arrival in the Senate, just as this one will be; and everybody knows it.

In fact, The New York Times reported that since 2011:

Republicans have spent no less than 15 percent of their time on the House floor on repeal in some way.

Since 2011, they've spent 15 percent of their time on this House floor trying to repeal health care for all Americans.

When President Obama was reelected after campaigning on the Affordable Care Act as a major first-term achievement with the unanimous opposition of Republican colleagues and after the Supreme Court said, yes, this is a constitutional exercise of the Congress' authority, Speaker BOEHNER said, "ObamaCare is the law of the land."

I had hoped that would be the end of wasted time and \$52.4 million in taxpayer money on legislation to nowhere that would strip away benefits for millions and millions of Americans. Sadly, however, this vote is more of the same.

It would increase out-of-pocket costs on preventive services for 105 million Americans, including 34 million seniors on Medicare and 71 million Americans covered under private plans.

It would allow insurance companies to reimpose arbitrary lifetime limits on coverage for more than 100 million people.

It would allow insurance companies once again to discriminate against and deny care to as many as 17 million children with preexisting conditions. CantorCare tried to reverse that and had to be pulled from this floor because even a Republican-sponsored attempt at dealing with preexisting conditions was rejected by our Republican colleagues.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the clock will not be turned back. ObamaCare is the law of the land. Those are not my words, but Speaker BOEHNER's.

You say this vote is necessary so that freshman Members have a chance to get on record on a major issue. If they haven't gotten on record now, they're not going to get on record.

If that is the standard for getting a vote on the floor, then let us have a vote on replacing the sequester which you have denied freshmen the chance to vote on all year. That is what we ought to be spending our time on, getting our country on a sound fiscal path, creating jobs and growing our economy. Instead, we tread water; we waste time as we continue to debate for the 37th time the repeal of health care for all Americans.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE).

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this may be the 37th time that the House has taken up the repeal of ObamaCare, but this is my first time; and I and the constituents that sent me here want my vote recorded to repeal this poorly crafted, job-killing law.

Last week, colleges in my district graduated more than 2,000 students eager to enter our workforce. These week-old college graduates in my district will be met with real-life chal-

lenges immediately thanks to the President's health care law. Over 50 percent of recent college graduates are unemployed. Five years after the recession, national unemployment remains unacceptably high.

Seventy percent of small businesses cite the Affordable Care Act as a reason not to hire. Businesses large and small are considering cutting their workforce and reducing hours to avoid the requirements of the Affordable Care Act in January.

Working families in America are hurting, and the Affordable Care Act is adding to their pain. The CBO estimates that 30 percent of employers will stop offering employer-sponsored health insurance next year.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask how much time remains on each side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has 5¾ minutes, and the gentlewoman from Tennessee has 7½ minutes remaining.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR).

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act is working for families and small businesses all across America.

Did you know that the Affordable Care Act provides tax credits to small businesses that offer health insurance to their employees and that over 360,000 small businesses have taken advantage of those tax credits so far and millions more remain eligible?

Speaking of young people, in the State of Florida alone, over 224,000 young people have been able to have health insurance because they've now been able to stay on their parents' policies.

□ 1530

Mr. Speaker, 1.3 million Floridians have received \$124 million in rebates from insurance companies, an average of \$168 per family, because of important consumer protection provisions in the law that say insurance companies can't charge families too much.

Medicare is stronger, the doughnut hole is closing, and the Affordable Care Act is a godsend to so many families who have preexisting conditions, whether it is cancer or diabetes or some other chronic condition.

To my Republican colleagues, let's come together to work on the economy and creating jobs rather than another *deja vu* of repealing health care and wasting time.

I urge everyone to vote "no" on the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield myself 15 seconds to respond to a couple of things.

We are working on jobs. One of the items that concerns us is that, according to the CBO, implementation of the ObamaCare bill with its 13,000 pages, 7-foot tall tower of red tape would cost this economy 800,000 jobs. We also know that it's grown to being a \$2.6 trillion program.

At this time I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PITTEMBER).

Mr. PITTEMBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join a chorus of people who recognize the ineffectiveness of the Affordable Care Act which, frankly, Mr. Speaker, is not even affordable. The CBO also said that there's \$1.8 trillion now added to the cost of ObamaCare.

We've seen the impact on physicians. Physicians, particularly those with specialties, don't want to continue in their practice. People in medical school, they don't want to continue. People in undergraduate, they don't want to go to med school. There's a dearth, Mr. Speaker, of availability in the future of physicians.

We've seen premiums skyrocket. In North Carolina alone, premiums have increased 284 percent.

We've seen the impact of 7 million people now who cannot take their own personal health insurance that they were promised.

We've seen a risk pool that no longer has funding available.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better, and we're going to work hard to ensure that we have a competitive health care program that will deliver true health provisions for the American people.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. That's right, America, the repeal of patients' rights, brought to you by the Republican majority of the House. It is the 37th vote to repeal ObamaCare.

While far from perfect, the Affordable Care Act was a serious attempt to solve a serious problem. By contrast, the legislation we are considering today is not serious, and the only problem it portends to solve is offering new Members of this body an opportunity to vote on a bill that isn't going anywhere.

I assure you, there's no lack of real problems for this body to address. As of March, the unemployment rate for most of my congressional district was at 7 percent. Does anyone in this Chamber think we should sit on our laurels with 7.3 percent unemployment? Instead of holding 37 votes to repeal the Affordable Care Act, is it too much to ask that we just hold one vote on the American Jobs Act, legislation that included both Democratic and Republican ideas that would put more money in the pockets of small businesses and put countless Americans back to work? These political votes are a foolish waste of time, and the American people deserve better.

In closing, I would urge my colleagues to oppose this blatantly political legislation and return to a focus on legislation that creates jobs, grows the economy, lays the foundation for sustainable prosperity, and doesn't strip away health care benefits for millions of Americans.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN), who is the author of H.R. 45.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from Tennessee who has been a champion for the repeal of ObamaCare for years and years.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the recent revelations that have just come out within this last week regarding the outrageous activities of the Internal Revenue Service pointed against the people of the United States, every American should be concerned about the negative consequences of this bill, ObamaCare.

The Supreme Court has ruled that ObamaCare is in fact a tax. Knowing that it's a tax, the logical conclusion is that the entity in the United States that will be tasked with enforcing tax policy is the IRS.

I'm a former Federal tax litigation attorney. I worked for the Treasury Department. We had only one client; it was the IRS. The IRS is the only entity that enforces tax policy in the United States, and ObamaCare is enforced by the IRS—probably the most feared Federal agency in the United States Government. It concerns me. It should concern every single American listening to our voices today that the IRS has admitted this week that they directly targeted Americans, including Christians, including those who support the State of Israel, including those who are for jobs and less debt, including conservatives, Tea Partiers. They were targeted; why? Because of what they believe—their religious beliefs, their political beliefs—and the IRS targeted them for punishment, or for reward, depending upon how their ideas lined up with the administration's ideas.

You see, this dysfunctional implementation of ObamaCare and the ongoing assault on nonnegotiable constitutional liberties is enough to convince every single one of us who are the people's representatives to seek full repeal of this law. It's our job, Mr. Speaker, to defend liberty. We're all sworn to protect and defend the Constitution, and that's why, today, we have to end this horrible piece of legislation and stand up for people.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I believe the other side has more time, and so at this time I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON).

(Mr. SALMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I'm driven today to rise because I agree wholeheartedly with Senator MAX BAUCUS, that ObamaCare is a train wreck to our economy. As a proud cosponsor of H.R. 45, I unequivocally support a full repeal of this onerous law.

Since the Supreme Court has delineated it as a tax, it's clear that obligations or commitments to not raise

taxes on the middle class have gone by the wayside. In fact, this will be one of the largest tax increases on the middle class known to man. In fact, there's a hidden tax in this bill on medical devices, lifesaving medical devices.

My mother, 90 years old, has a pacemaker, and that keeps her alive. The next time she gets one, she's going to have to pay a tax on that, and so is every other senior citizen who has a pacemaker. I think this is just flat out wrong.

Also, the Maricopa Community College district just recently reclassified 700 professors from full-time status to part-time status so they don't have to pay this onerous tax.

Mr. Speaker, this is a terrible bill. It needs to be repealed.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Arizona keeps talking about the terrible things in the health care reform bill. But let me just say, in his State, if the ACA was repealed, that would mean in Arizona, drug costs for over 65,000 seniors would have been \$102 million higher; 69,000 young adults would not have had coverage through their parents' plans; 917,000 women and 434,000 seniors and people with disabilities would not have had access to free preventive care; 414,000 people would not have received \$28 million in rebates from their insurance companies; and next year, 948,000 people will not have access to quality, dependable health insurance coverage.

And so these are the facts, the real problem that happens in the State of Arizona, if this bill were to pass and the health care reform were to be repealed.

I reserve the balance of my time. Mrs. BLACKBURN. At this time I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD).

Mr. SANFORD. I rise with a chorus of others in this whole notion of repealing ObamaCare primarily because of its financial impact. At the end of the day, if you look at the Government Accountability Office numbers, what they show is that there's \$6.2 trillion of cumulative impact here over the next 10 years. If you look at the Congressional Budget Office numbers, what they show is increasing numbers in \$800 billion increments. And, in fact, if you look at American tax reform studies, what they show are 20 new or raised levels of tax that go with this bill.

□ 1540

I think, more importantly, it turns on its head this whole notion of the Hippocratic Oath, which has been a 200-year tradition in this country of doctors working directly for a patient.

And finally, and I'd say most importantly, it turns upside down this American tradition of not having the government force on the consumers the notion of the purchase of a product. It's for that and many other reasons that I join again with a chorus of others in urging repeal of this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, at this time I'd like to yield 1½ minutes to the

gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the ranking member of our Budget Committee.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, voting to repeal the Affordable Care Act for the 37th time is a waste of resources and another example of the refusal to focus on the important issues of jobs and the economy right now. It's also an example of bad budgeting.

One of the things I don't think our Republican colleagues have focused on is that their claim to have a balanced budget rests on the savings and the tax revenue in the ObamaCare bill. So if you repeal all of ObamaCare, which this bill says it wants to do, the Republican budget will immediately be out of balance in 10 years. Here's how it works:

If you look at the Republican budget, in 10 years, they claim that there's a \$7 billion surplus. But the reality is it also contains in it Medicare savings—we heard that issue demagogued during the last Presidential campaign—and it also includes ObamaCare revenue. And if you take out that over \$400 billion in Medicare savings and the revenue in ObamaCare, poof, the Republican budget is way out of balance.

And, Mr. Speaker, it's not just me saying that. Here's what The Heritage Foundation said. They also point out that the Republican budget depends on ObamaCare.

So, long story short, you can't have it both ways. You can't repeal ObamaCare and go home and tell people you did that and, at the same time, say you have a balanced budget.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER).

Mr. MESSER. I thank the gentlelady. I rise in support today of ObamaCare repeal.

I can't begin to highlight all the problems of ObamaCare in 1 minute, so I will instead focus on this simple fact: ObamaCare is the biggest assault on the 40-hour workweek in this country in a generation.

Under ObamaCare, government mandates and penalties kick in for every employee that works more than 30 hours a week. Employers can't afford ObamaCare's mandates and penalties, so they're scaling back the hours of their employees to less than 30 hours as a result. And that's bad for workers. It means many working moms will be forced to look for a second job to find the hours they need to pay their bills and feed their family.

In my hometown of Shelbyville, for example, it has already meant that some part-time teacher's aides must work less so the local school system doesn't go bankrupt. That's bad for teachers and students. And the problems are just beginning.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to repeal ObamaCare and restore the 40-hour workweek. Forty may be the new 30 when it comes to aging, but 30 is the new 40 when it comes to the ObamaCare workweek.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has 1½ minutes remaining, and the gentlewoman from Tennessee has 1¼ minutes remaining.

Mr. PALLONE. I yield myself the balance of the time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just heard the gentleman from Indiana say, We can't do this; we can't do that. I mean, this is the problem with the other side of the aisle, with the Republican side of the aisle: they always believe that we can't do anything here in the House of Representatives.

The fact of the matter is that Democrats saw the problem. The problem was discriminatory health insurance practices. The problem was young people not being able to get on their parents' insurance policies. The problem was women not being able to access health care and so many Americans, 40, 50 million Americans, that did not have health insurance.

And what did we do as Democrats?

We found a solution to the problem, which was the Affordable Care Act, and it was working. The discriminatory practices are going away. More and more people are going to have health insurance. Most Americans will have health insurance by the beginning of 2014. And the doughnut hole for prescriptions drugs for seniors is being closed. All these things are answers that the Democrats have brought through the Affordable Care Act for the problems that existed with our health care system.

And all I hear from the other side of the aisle is, We can't do this; we can't do that.

Well, we've done something. Don't just come here and tell us we have to repeal it. As I said before, if you have a solution, you want to work with us to improve things, that's fine; but don't come here for the 37th and 38th time and say, We're just going to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

You never come up with a positive solution to the problem. In this Congress, all we hear from the Republican side of the aisle is, We want to repeal everything; we want to waste time.

Don't continue to do this. This bill is a complete waste of time. It passes here, it goes to the Senate, and nothing happens.

Let's keep this bill, the Affordable Care Act, in place. It's doing wonderful things for the American people.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This law has become 13,000 pages of regulation. It has gone from costing \$800 billion to \$2.6 trillion.

It's so interesting to hear people talk about solutions and wanting government to do things. Mr. Speaker, the American people can solve so many of these problems. They know the answers do not come out of Washington, D.C. They come from our communities.

They come from our State legislatures. They come, solutions come from employers that are fighting every single day to keep people employed.

One of the biggest impediments to job growth, indeed, including the 800,000 jobs this bill will cost us, this law, ObamaCare, costing us 800,000 jobs over the next 10 years, is keeping people working full-time.

We know what the problems are. We're saying, Look, admit it was a mistake. The American people don't want it. It's too expensive to afford. Let's get it off the books.

And we do come forward with solutions. We come forward with keeping patient-centered, health care centermost for our constituents. That's what they want. They want options. They do not want regulation and mandates by the Federal Government, who can't seem to solve the problems that are in front of them right now, whether it's the IRS or anyone else.

Let's repeal this bill and pass H.R. 45.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 45, the legislation that will repeal the President's job-destroying health care law, and yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation is mired in a jobs crisis, and the President's health care law is making it worse. Since ObamaCare was first enacted in 2010, Federal bureaucrats have written nearly 20,000 pages of new regulations—20,000 pages.

Colleagues on the other side of the aisle have talked about how many times we've tried to get rid of this menace and what's changed. Well, as we know, very famously, we had to pass the bill to find out what was in it, but even then we didn't know what was in it. We're now at 20,000 pages of regulations and still counting.

Meanwhile, America's job creators are struggling to manage the full effects of the law in their workplaces.

□ 1550

Ed Tubel has owned and operated Sonny's Real Pit Barbecue for more than 30 years. At a recent hearing in North Carolina, Mr. Tubel outlined the difficult choices he now faces, including higher prices for customers and fewer hours for workers. Brett Parker, vice chairman of Bowlmor Lanes of New York, testified in 2011 that his business may also have to shift workers to part-time hours in order to "protect existing jobs."

As chief human resources officer with Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, Tina Haynes stated the college must consider cutting the number of courses offered to students. She also described

the health care law as a “massive administrative burden that comes with unanticipated costs.” And Gail Johnson, president and CEO of an early childhood learning center, warned in 2011 that ObamaCare would “force entrepreneurs to invest less into growing their business” and slow the growth of small businesses.

These men and women live each day with the consequences of the health care law. No doubt, others across the country have similar stories to tell. There are a number of good reasons why Congress should repeal the government takeover of health care. It is driving up the cost of care, and millions will lose the health care coverage they have and like. Yes, Mr. Speaker, if you like your coverage, you may not be able to keep it. According to CBO, at least 7 million people fall into that trap.

But for many Americans, one reason stands above the rest: jobs. Our Nation’s workers and employers cannot afford the Democrats’ job-destroying health care law. I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 45.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Tennessee, Dr. ROE, and ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Tennessee will control the balance of the majority’s time.

There was no objection.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 4 minutes.

I rise today in opposition to the Patients’ Rights Repeal Act. Mr. Speaker, we meet today for the 37th attempt to take away the basic health care rights from millions of Americans. Yet, despite all of these votes, the Affordable Care Act remains the law of the land. And it will remain the law of the land even after today’s vote. That’s a fact.

So why are we here for the 37th time? Are Republicans afraid that Americans are now able to get basic preventive health care screening with no copay? Are they afraid that Americans will now no longer be gouged or denied coverage because of preexisting conditions? Are Republicans fearful that the insurance companies can’t cut off life-saving care just because somebody got sick? Because they can’t do that now with the Affordable Care Act.

Why on Earth would anyone fear American families being put back in charge of their health care? But we’re here, yet again, to satisfy the majority’s needs to have another meaningless vote. This obsession with repeal by the majority is bordering on the absurd. It’s time to move on, for goodness’ sake. Open season is set to begin in 5 months. Americans without affordable insurance will be able to shop for plans in an open and transparent marketplace with the help of tax credits for those who qualify. Employers of small businesses will be able to shop for appropriate health care for their

employees and for their businesses with the help of tax credits.

It’s our duty as public servants to help our constituents navigate this new law, not spend our time obstructing it. That’s how California has approached the reform. We’ve worked in a collaborative way with all of the stakeholders. And that’s how the government should work, because they know that it will help families struggling to afford health insurance.

Take, for instance, a family of four making \$60,000 in California who buys their own insurance. Today, they pay some \$12,500 on average for insurance. That’s more than \$1,000 a month. But starting in January, this family will save almost \$5,000 a year because of the Affordable Care Act. Think about what this family can do with that extra \$400 a month. It means paying your bills, it means saving money for your kids’ education, it means repairing your car. This is what the Affordable Care Act can do. This is what ObamaCare does. This is what the Republicans are trying to hide from the American people.

Our country has been debating health care for more than a century. They keep saying there’s other alternative solutions. It’s funny that none of them came forward. None of them came forward during this debate with those alternative solutions, and health premiums were skyrocketing in double-digits year after year after year. For decades, we debated how to make sure all Americans have access to health care that won’t bankrupt them if they get sick. For decades, we debated control of the national health spending by ensuring that everyone is covered. For decades, we debated how to control uncompensated care that cost families dearly. And it took the leadership of Speaker PELOSI and President Obama to bring positive change for families and businesses struggling under the weight of health care costs.

The fact of the matter is this plan currently today is working for millions of Americans, for millions of seniors, for millions of young Americans and for millions of young people born with preexisting conditions. That’s what this legislation is about, lowering the cost of prescription drugs for senior citizens and making sure that people can get preventive care without copays. The Republicans want to yank that all away, and they don’t have a plan to provide that health care security.

Interestingly enough, the other day in *The Wall Street Journal* was a full discussion about how this health care package is entrepreneurial because people who feel that they’re job-locked will now be able to go out and start businesses because they know they’ll have health care insurance for themselves or for their spouses or for the kids, and they’ll be able to become the entrepreneurs they want to be. There’s a discussion among large employers because people will leave and take their ideas and start their own businesses.

That’s what this health care enables Americans to do for the first time, not be locked into a job because of the fear of the insecurity of not having health care for your family and what that means.

This is an entrepreneurial act. This is liberating people. This is freeing people from the financial fear of the loss of health care. Never again, with the passage of this legislation, will an American lose health care because they lost their job, because somebody died in their family or because a child was born with a preexisting condition. Never again. The Republicans don’t have an alternative. They only have obstruction and repeal as part of their program.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I yield myself 2 minutes.

Today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 45, the repeal of a flawed health care reform bill.

I came to this body 4½ years ago understanding that the greatest problem with the American health care system was cost and access. I knew this because I practiced medicine in east Tennessee for 31 years. I also have been involved with health care reform in Tennessee beginning in 1993 with our attempt to reform our Medicaid program called TennCare. I knew here what not to do. ObamaCare is what not to do. We saw costs skyrocket, and we saw our then-Democratic Governor cut benefits and cut the rolls, therefore rationing care.

We need health care reform today in this country, but we need patient-centered health care reform where patients, their families, and their physicians make health care decisions, not government bureaucrats with 20,000 pages worth of rules or insurance companies.

Health care should not be a partisan issue. I, as a physician, have never seen a Republican or a Democrat heart attack. I have never operated on a Republican or Democrat cancer in my life.

We were made promises during the health care debate: your insurance premiums would go down, jobs would be created, and access would be expanded. What’s really happened? Insurance premiums have skyrocketed by as much as 100 percent. We’re looking at tax increases for individuals, taxes on productive companies, and taxes on life-saving medical devices. Small business owners are being forced to cut hours, delay investment, and stop hiring just to stay afloat. This comes at a time when families need more income to make ends meet, not less hours to work and higher insurance premiums.

Are patients getting lower costs? It’s an emphatic “no.” And maybe the biggest insult of all, the IRS will determine if your insurance coverage is adequate.

Mr. Speaker, I stand ready to repeal this flawed bill and work with my Democratic colleagues on health care

reform that will truly work for the American people, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS.)

(Mr. ANDREWS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my friend for yielding.

It is right and good that people should passionately pursue their points of view in democratic debate. But it's also our obligation to work from the same set of facts. I have sat here and listened to my friends for the better part of an hour, and I do think it's important that we reflect a correct record on a lot of things, first of all, about the deficit. We have a neutral referee here on questions about spending and taxes called the Congressional Budget Office, and several Members on the other side have approvingly quoted what the CBO says on different things.

Here is what the CBO says about this law:

Repealing this law will add at least \$100 billion to the deficit.

Now, our friends disagree with that, but the referee that they hired, that we live by, says repeal of the law adds \$100 billion to the deficit.

We hear that health insurance premiums have gone up by an average of \$3,000 per year. I don't know the source of that claim. Someone should share that with us. But I do know this: the cost-control strategies in the new law which involve the establishment of a competitive insurance market so the insurance companies don't have huge market control hasn't taken effect yet and doesn't take effect until January 1 of 2014. This is characterized as government control of health care.

□ 1600

Here's what the law actually says: it says a person without health insurance can get a subsidy to choose among private insurance plans, like Blue Cross and Blue Shield, like Kaiser Permanente, and make their choice.

There is nothing in this law—and I would challenge any of my friends on the other side, Mr. Speaker, to show us one word that says that the doctor-patient relationship is in any way impeded or impaired by this law. They can't find those words because they're not there.

The bill is referred to as a job-killing health care law, right out of the polling and focus groups of the Republican Party. Here's the facts: in the months before the law was signed, the country was bleeding jobs; 750,000 jobs lost in the month of January of 2009 when the President was inaugurated. Since the law was signed, the private sector has added 3.5 million jobs. Now, you can argue, well, it would have been four and a half or five. Have that argument if you want. But since the law was signed, the number of jobs in the private sector has gone up by a lot, not

down. That's what the private sector has done.

One of the gentlewomen referred to CBO saying 800,000 jobs are being lost. Apparently CBO is okay in that fact. Here's what that report really says: it says that a lot of people who are older—in their late fifties and early sixties—who are working because they feel they have to work for health insurance are likely to take early retirement. That's where the 800,000 job difference comes from. That's what the report says if you read it.

We've heard ObamaCare is a tax. That is true. ObamaCare is a tax on two kinds of people—people with investment income in excess of about a quarter-million dollars and people who can afford health insurance, choose not to buy it, and choose to have our neighbors and our constituents who do buy health insurance pay their bills when they go to the emergency room. That is true.

We've heard we have to protect the Constitution. Well, we are protecting the Constitution. With all due respect, your side litigated this and lost. The Supreme Court of the United States heard the claim this is unconstitutional and said you were wrong.

Finally, we hear about the assault on the 40-hour workweek. Massachusetts, under a Governor named Romney, did something very similar to this law—imposed an employer mandate. Here's what happened in Massachusetts: while the rest of the country was shedding 3.6 percent of its full-time jobs, Massachusetts lost 2.8 percent of its full-time jobs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSLEHTINEN). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield the gentleman 30 seconds.

Mr. ANDREWS. I thank my friend.

Massachusetts added nine-tenths of 1 percent of part-time jobs to the workforce. The country was 0.8. So if this bill is going to force all of these employers to drop their hours from full time to part time, why didn't it happen in Massachusetts?

This has been a fact-free debate up until this time. The country deserves better. The House deserves better. We should oppose this absent-minded repeal.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

I just left in my office the Tennessee insurance commissioner who said the first of January, the individual market, 40 to 75 percent higher premiums; the smaller-group market, 50 to 55 percent higher. Plans would be less rich, with higher copays, higher deductibles, young healthy males get a huge increase. Instead of having eight state-wide plans, we're now down to two and maybe one.

I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. DAINES).

Mr. DAINES. Earlier this week, I sent an online survey out to my constituents with one simple question: Do

you support efforts to repeal ObamaCare? Thousands of Montanans responded, and by a 3-1 margin they made it clear that ObamaCare needs to be repealed.

And as we speak, the American people are lighting up Twitter. Check it out yourself. They're tweeting about the harms of ObamaCare in three words. Actually, the hashtag is: ObamaCare in Three Words.

But while Americans are saying things like "job-crushing mandates" and "premiums are skyrocketing," 1 hour ago the White House tweeted back and said this: "Because. It's. Law." Well, I have three words for the White House: arrogance of power.

Madam Speaker, if the President is unwilling to listen to the voice of the people, then the House will, because this is the people's House. ObamaCare is a bad law, plain and simple.

I was elected to serve the people of Montana and represent their voice in this Congress, and that's what I'm doing today. Montanans have spoken loud and clear: they want this law repealed. That's why I will vote to repeal it.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Today, if people want to talk about repealing health care reform, it's important that they talk about exactly what repeal means.

Repeal means that young people under 26 will have to get off their parents' policies.

Repeal means that seniors will have to suffer through the doughnut hole that we're in the process of closing.

Repeal means an end to tax cuts to small businesses who are providing health coverage for their employees.

Repeal means that next year all Americans who expect to be able to afford health insurance will not be able to afford it, and all Americans with preexisting conditions who expected to be able to buy health insurance at the standard rate will not be able to buy it.

Repeal means that those who think they will need health security if they switch jobs, they will lose that security when they switch jobs.

Repeal means an end to the laws against insurance abuses, like unreasonable rate increases and cancellation of policies when you most need them. There will be an end to that if we repeal.

If people want to talk about repealing the Affordable Care Act, they should talk about what's going to happen to young people, to those with preexisting conditions, to seniors in the doughnut hole, and the future affordability of health care.

Madam Speaker, we should not repeal the Affordable Care Act, we should oppose the legislation.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to my

good friend from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON).

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to ObamaCare for the reasons we've heard already here today. However, I would like to explain how this "train wreck" is affecting Indiana and costing good-paying Hoosier jobs.

Indiana is home to over 300 medical device companies, creating over 54,800 jobs that pay an average salary of \$59,706 per year, and the medical device industry provides \$50 billion to Indiana's economy.

Companies have already decided not to expand and many across the country have announced layoffs. The device tax is so dangerous that our friends in the U.S. Senate voted recently 79-20 to repeal the medical device tax, and last Congress the House voted in a bipartisan manner to repeal the tax.

Yet we've heard from the White House that the President doesn't support repeal because they need the money to support ObamaCare. This tax is a job killer and stifles innovation. It must be repealed.

ObamaCare is full of these types of examples. This near government takeover of our Nation's health care system is riddled with more taxes, burdensome regulations, and unintended consequences that are costing jobs and compromising the quality of health care available to Americans. Not to mention many full-time employees are being cut back to part time so that employers can comply with all the requirements of the law. My constituents are telling me that this is happening as we speak back in Indiana.

Before coming to the House, I practiced medicine for 15 years. That experience tells me that this law fails to help patients get access to quality, affordable health care, prevents businesses from expanding, and is not helping us create much needed jobs.

It also puts government bureaucrats between the patient and their doctor—government bureaucrats in an agency that is intrusive, untrustworthy and targeting American citizens based on politics. Yes, Madam Speaker, ObamaCare vastly expands the IRS and is dependent on the agency for its implementation. That's why I'm proud to stand here today with my colleagues to support our Nation's patients by voting to repeal this disastrous law so we can replace it with commonsense, patient-centered reforms.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling upholding the health care bill was a historic win for this Nation's small businesses and their employees. In fact, 62 percent of all small businesses didn't have access to health insurance for

themselves, their employees, and their families. That ruling proved that the Affordable Care Act was a good law.

□ 1610

The benefits small businesses are already seeing reiterate this fact, and yet we find ourselves voting again on repealing this landmark law. Once more we must vote on a bill that will not help a single small business invest, hire, or secure a loan. If you want to help small businesses, put people back to work.

In addition to the small business health care tax credit, which has already helped 360,000 small businesses providing health insurance to up to 2 million workers in this country, the medical loss ratio has ensured that businesses of all sizes were getting the most out of their premium dollars, saving them nearly \$321 million—money that they could put back into their companies.

The future of health reform holds more promise. Banning denials for pre-existing conditions reduces "job lock" and encourages more than 1.6 million prospective entrepreneurs to launch new companies.

At a small business hearing last month, Ms. Louisa McQueeney credited the ACA with providing her company "better coverage and greater peace of mind." The ACA will soon prohibit insurers from hiking rates on small firms without justification and end discrimination based on gender. So, I agree with Ms. McQueeney when she says, "Frankly, it can't come soon enough."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Contrary to beliefs, the ACA gives small businesses better access to quality coverage. Passage of today's bill would strip new protections that provide bargaining power to small companies. That is why I will continue to oppose any efforts repealing a law that is beneficial to millions of small firms, and I urge our colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON).

Mr. COTTON. Madam Speaker, every time Cato the Elder spoke in the Roman Senate, he said, whatever the topic, "Carthage must be destroyed." As long as Carthage survived, the freedom and prosperity of the Roman people would never be secured.

As then with Carthage, so now with ObamaCare: as long as it remains on the books, the health, prosperity, and freedom of the American people will never be secure.

ObamaCare raids \$700 billion from Medicare, meaning seniors across Arkansas will have their health care rationed as doctors refuse to see new Medicare patients.

ObamaCare creates an unelected and unaccountable panel of bureaucrats to

ration and deny needed medical care for Arizona seniors.

ObamaCare will cause insurance premiums to skyrocket by as much as 60 to 100 percent for Arkansas families.

ObamaCare raises 21 taxes by more than \$1 trillion and will cost at least \$1.7 trillion in the first decade alone.

ObamaCare violates our freedom of conscience by using taxpayer dollars to fund abortion.

ObamaCare is corrupt to its rotten core. The government has exempted hundreds of the President's cronies from the law. The Secretary of Health and Human Services is right now shaking down private companies for millions of dollars to promote ObamaCare.

And, of course, the IRS, expanded by 2,000 agents, will be the main enforcement agency for ObamaCare, the very IRS who we now know targets the President's political opponents for harassment and intimidation.

Madam Speaker, ObamaCare must be repealed. I urge the Congress to repeal this abominable law, and I urge the American people to vote out of office every politician who voted for it 3 years ago.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY).

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. This is now number 37, the 37th time that we have debated this issue. We have now built up quite an archive of hysterical predictions by the Republicans during all these debates and 3 years of experience to see how those predictions have actually panned out.

Prediction number one, ObamaCare was going to kill Medicare Advantage plans. Has that happened? No. In 2013, this year, 14.5 million Americans have enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans, up from last year, which was 12.8 million. And while the enrollment is up, the cost has stayed flat, even. The monthly premium, average monthly premium for Medicare Advantage this year versus last year, went up \$1 a month.

Health savings accounts, the GOP said that ObamaCare would kill health savings accounts. This year, in 2013, health savings accounts have never been higher. 13.5 million Americans are in a health savings account, up from 11.4 million in January 2011. The President of the Health Savings Administrators was quoted recently as saying, "You're going to see an explosion of health savings accounts assets."

We have heard that it is going to kill jobs. We have already heard from Mr. ANDREWS 6.7 million new private sector jobs have been created since March of 2010, many of them, by the way, in health care—over 800,000.

But, lastly, all the predictions about busting the budget and creating higher new costs. We heard yesterday from the Congressional Budget Office that Medicare cost growth has been at the most moderate level since Medicare

was created in 1965. The index of per capita Medicare expenditure last month rose less than 1 percent, again, shattering records over the history of the Medicare program. And it is doing it the smart way, by greater oversight of fraud, by better coordination of care, by more preventive care such as giving seniors the prescription drugs that the Republican prescription drug program denied them back in 2003.

This program, like any program, can always be improved, and I have worked with Dr. ROE in terms of the IPAB repeal. Let's do that.

Let's stop wasting our time on a mindless repeal of measures that are working.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, KEITH ROTHFUS.

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 45.

President Obama made a lot of promises when pushing his health care law through Congress. He promised that it would make health care more affordable and accessible. He promised that if you liked your health care plan, you would be able to keep it. Western Pennsylvanians will tell you that President Obama has failed to keep these promises.

We recently saw one of these failures when the Community College of Allegheny County reduced the hours of many part-time employees because it could not afford the increased cost of health insurance. This is just one of the many sad side effects of a law that puts the government in the driver's seat of our health care system while taking patients and doctors along for the ride.

Western Pennsylvanians do not want a law that will turn a doctor's waiting room into the waiting room for the Department of Motor Vehicles. They want commonsense and patient-centered reform that makes health care more affordable and accessible for workers, seniors, and families.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS).

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

This is the 37th time Congress is wasting time attempting to repeal this law. My friends across the aisle could focus on putting this helpful and urgently needed law into effect.

Forty-one million more Americans will have the opportunity to get health care under this law. One in four of them are hardworking Latino Americans who want to protect their families and provide for them. They will finally be able to live without fear that they are not one illness away from going into bankruptcy. Now you want to take that promise away from them.

Earlier this year, my friends across the aisle committed themselves to engaging Hispanic Americans. How can they say they genuinely want to address our needs when they vote to destroy a law that is vastly going to represent 41 million Americans having access to health care and, of those, 10 million Latinos having access to health care?

A point of personal privilege, Madam Speaker. I would like to take the opportunity to thank my wife for being married to me for 21 years. Today is our anniversary, and here I am on the floor working. Hopefully, we will have some good work done today.

□ 1620

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, very briefly, Republicans and Democrats did vote to repeal the 1099 and the IPAB and to repeal the device tax and the CLASS Act. Then we hear we didn't have any solutions. There were 80 amendments to this bill. None of them were ruled germane to the bill. I had 10 amendments on which I wanted to work with the other side. The Republican substitute was voted on, which is an across-State-lines association of health plans actually funding high-risk pools for preexisting conditions, HSAs and consumer-driven, putting the patient in charge of health care decisions.

I now yield 1 minute to my good friend from South Carolina, JOE WILSON.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Thank you, Dr. ROE, for yielding.

Today, House Republicans will vote for the 37th time to repeal or defund ObamaCare.

Prior to its deal-making passage in 2010, the National Federation of Independent Business, America's largest organization of small businesses, warned that the implementation of the government health care takeover would destroy 1.6 million jobs due to mandates and tax increases, crippling small businesses.

To make matters worse, at a time when our Nation is experiencing record unemployment, President Obama has called on the IRS, an agency currently in the midst of scandal, to hire thousands of new agents to enforce ObamaCare. Based on the recent reports, it is clear that the IRS should not be expanded to include the authorization of controlling health care for the American people.

Today's vote will give us an opportunity to repeal a crucial job-destroying bill that, in turn, will provide small businesses the certainty they need to begin hiring again and to put American families back to work. As a proud co-sponsor, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of the bill.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. May I inquire of the Chair how much time is available on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 4½ minutes

remaining, and the gentleman from Tennessee has 7¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 1 minute to the Republican Majority Leader, the gentleman from Virginia, ERIC CANTOR.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman for the time.

Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of the full repeal of ObamaCare.

Moms and dads across America are worried. They are worried about their health, the health of their kids, the health of their aging parents. They are struggling to understand how the new health care laws will affect their prescription prices, their emergency room visits, whether they can keep their doctors or, worse, whether they can keep their jobs.

These families want the best for themselves and their children, and so do we. House Republicans want patient-centered health care reform that lowers costs, increases access, makes the health care system easier to enter and easier to navigate. ObamaCare is not the answer.

While both parties agree that we must make health care more accessible, we in the majority fundamentally disagree that more government is the answer. Sweeping mandates on individuals and businesses will not improve our health care. We do not wish to see unelected, Federal bureaucrats come between patients and their doctors—limiting choices, lowering quality and raising costs.

Madam Speaker, this act, which is the ObamaCare law and which is set to be implemented 8 months from now, is a threat to American patients and their families. When this law was first debated in 2009 and signed in 2010, the White House promised the American people that ObamaCare would lower costs for families and businesses. That promise has been broken. Nothing could be further from the truth.

If you like the health care coverage you currently have, you really don't know if you will be able to keep it under ObamaCare. Many employers are delaying hiring decisions because of provisions outlined in the law, and people with preexisting conditions are now being denied the coverage the President promised. There are more complaints about the law than praise—and for good reason.

It is now projected that ObamaCare will send health care premiums skyrocketing in the individual and small group insurance markets. When fully enacted, this law is expected to pose new financial burdens on America's youngest adults and many working families. Moreover, due to the projected cuts to Medicare Advantage, many of our seniors will face a type of health care that they didn't bargain for. This act should not be considered a reform but a bureaucratic overreach that makes a mess out of our health

care system and gives incredible power to the Internal Revenue Service.

President Obama has already signed seven bills originating in the House that repeal or defund parts of this health care law, but if we are serious in wanting to deliver real results for the people who sent us here, we should repeal ObamaCare and replace it with the health care that the American people desire.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I now yield 1 minute to my friend from North Carolina, RICHARD HUDSON.

Mr. HUDSON. Now, I don't have much in common with the leadership in the Senate, but today I stand in agreement with Senator MAX BAUCUS, who characterized the implementation of ObamaCare as a "train wreck."

Disasters occur when the government oversteps its bounds. We've seen it with ObamaCare, as it is the most egregious example. We've also seen this week what happens when Federal agencies target people for their political beliefs, and we've seen the same kind of overreach with violations of the First Amendment rights of reporters and journalists and in the failure to answer questions about the origins of the terrorist attack in Benghazi.

Legislatively, ObamaCare is the most egregious example of government overreach we have ever seen, and a disaster, ladies and gentlemen, is ensuing. Hard-working Americans are losing their jobs, families are paying more in taxes, and seniors are losing much-needed Medicare coverage—and this bill hasn't even been fully implemented yet.

Health care has always been and should always be a relationship between a patient and a doctor of one's choice, not a government mandate to be managed by faceless bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. The Federal Government has no authority to be the manager of the physical well-being of every American. I support its full repeal.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. May I inquire about the time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Tennessee has 5¾ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from California has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas, RANDY WEBER.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. I rise to implore Congress to listen to the American public and to pass H.R. 45.

If you think the Unaffordable Care Act is a good deal, then as an American you have to ask yourself:

Do you believe the IRS acts in your best interests? My conservative guess is: not on the best days.

Ask yourself: Were all of the events swirling around Benghazi shrouded in mystery or bathed in sunlight and transparency? Not on your life.

Ask yourself: Were the phone records of the AP reporters and the privacy that should have been afforded to them protected? Not on the best days.

Ask yourself: Is the government here to help? No.

The government that is in the process of bankrupting Social Security, of bankrupting the post office and that is on the verge of killing Medicare and Medicaid now wants to come tell us, Trust us. We're from the government. We're here to help.

Madam Speaker, I don't think the American public can afford that kind of trust or help. The answers are not here in Washington, D.C. They're back with Americans. Listen to the American public.

I am RANDY WEBER. Let's pass H.R. 45. That's the way I see it from where I sit.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield myself 2 minutes.

The previous speaker just said that we should listen to the American people. When the American people listen to the Congress of the United States, they assume that all of the Republicans in the country are against this health care bill and that all of the Democrats are for this health care bill.

Yet, if you look at the Kaiser Family Foundation's most recent poll on this, you'll find out that 96 percent of the Democrats and 83 percent of the Republicans support the tax credits for small business, which are now the law of the land, and 360,000 small businesses are getting those tax credits.

□ 1630

Ninety percent of the Democrats and 74 percent of the Republicans support closing the doughnut hole, and the doughnut hole is in the process of being closed. Democrats and Republicans agree in the country that this is a good deal.

Eighty-seven percent of the Democrats and 72 percent of the Republicans are excited about the creation of health care exchanges where they can go and shop for health care just as the Members of this Congress do in open season when they can pick and choose from different plans. In California, there will be 33 plans offered by private health insurance companies that they can pick and choose from. They think that's a good idea. They think it's a great idea.

Eighty-four percent of the Democrats and 68 percent of the Republicans think it's a great idea that children will not be thrown off their parents' policy, as is the law today.

That's why you've only voted to repeal. On the first day you took the majority in this Congress, you voted to repeal and you instructed the committees to come up with an alternative. You've had 37 votes on repeal, and you've had no action by the committees on the alternative.

So you have a plan that is meeting the needs of American families, millions of Americans of all walks of life,

small businesses, big businesses, employees at both, children, seniors, people with preexisting conditions, and your answer is to repeal, like that's progress.

No, that's not progress. That's the failure to have an alternative and creative thinking about how to deal with the health care problems of the American people. ObamaCare does that, the Affordable Care Act does that, and that's what this Congress did.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would like to remind Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I would now like to yield 1 minute to SCOTT PERRY of Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, in 2010, this body was told by Speaker PELOSI that it needed to pass the bill so the American people could know what's in it. Well, Madam Speaker, if the American people would have known of the toxic consequences that ObamaCare would have, I'm certain they would not have allowed this legislation to be passed. I rise today to expose some of the ramifications that ObamaCare will have on Americans when it is fully implemented in 2014.

In my home State of Pennsylvania, premium rates in the individual market will increase by approximately 30 percent, and on a national level there will be a 73 percent rise in premium costs for those keeping insurance. For those interested in getting a new plan, you're going to see an average increase of 100 percent in cost compared to today.

Due to the employer mandate, as many as 20 million to 65 million Americans will likely lose their employer-sponsored health care.

Well, Madam Speaker, it's 3 years later, and we still don't know everything in this legislation, but we do know who's picking up the tab: hard-working families and job-creating small business owners.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 1 minute to the minority leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his leadership and that of Mr. LEVIN and Mr. WAXMAN as the chairs of the three committees when this legislation, so transformative in the lives of the American people, was passed by the House of Representatives and now for coming to the floor today—I don't know what the word is—to even counter some of the ridiculousness that is being said on the other side of the aisle in relationship to the Affordable Care Act. The fact is that what's happening today is the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. That's what they want to do is repeal patients' rights.

Why are they doing this? Do you think it's a good idea to do this on Women's Health Week, to repeal legislation that gives a wide range of free

preventive services to women, protection being dropped for women when they are pregnant or when they are sick and they no longer will be charged higher premiums than men? Of course the Republicans want to repeal that today on Women's Health Week. But knowing soon that a woman will no longer be a preexisting medical condition is just one piece of it.

The fact is this is not a serious effort to repeal the act. That's not going to happen. What this is is another example of jobs evasion in several ways.

First of all, it is our job to come here and act for the good of the American people. Right now, the American people see that good as the creation of jobs. What is it, 134 days into this Congress and the Republican majority has yet to vote one bill out to create jobs? That's job evasion.

Here we are today with yet another one of their subterfuges. Let's not talk about jobs; let's use up time. What does it add up to? Up until now, it has been \$54 million and 43-some days spent on this, the 37th effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

What we should be doing is what the Republicans have asked for, regular order, to go to the budget table, to reconcile the differences between the House and the Senate so that we can put forth a budget that creates jobs, that reduces the deficit, that strengthens the middle class. Instead, we're wasting the taxpayers' dollars and time on legislation that is going to undermine protections for the American people when it comes to their health and well-being.

This bill today just gives us another opportunity for our side to talk about the transformative nature of the Affordable Care Act.

If there were no reason to pass such a bill, if everyone loved his or her own health care and health insurance premiums, if that were the case, we would still have had to pass the legislation because the status quo in health care in our country was unsustainable from a financial standpoint. It was unsustainable for families, for individuals, for small businesses, and for corporate America.

The cost of health care was a competitiveness issue. As we try to retain our position as number one in the world—a competitive issue—the cost of health care was rising. It certainly was unsustainable for cities, States, and the Federal Government. Our budget could not sustain the rapid increase of health care to our budget.

That is why, when the Speaker asked, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office responded by informing House Republicans in a letter sent yesterday reiterating that repealing the Affordable Care Act would increase the deficit by \$109 billion over the next 10 years. They said that this is a figure that they had given the Speaker last July. There may be some little changes in it between now and then, but that was approximately where the figures were.

So if you want to reduce the deficit, you don't repeal the Affordable Care Act because you will increase the deficit by \$109 billion over the next 10 years. The purpose of the bill was not only to improve the quality of health care, increase accessibility to many more people and to lower the cost, but that in lowering the cost, it would reduce the deficit.

So it's a bill, and pretty soon many more Americans will be taking advantage of it. So far, over 100 million Americans have taken advantage of the preventive services and over 100 million Americans are no longer subjected to lifetime limits on their insurance coverage. That's a remarkable thing. Seniors who are in the doughnut hole have seen their prescription drug costs reduced by around \$6 billion. Right now young people can stay on their parents' insurance policy until they're 26 years old.

The list goes on and on about the preventive exams that are free to seniors. The list goes on and on about what benefits the action that the Republicans are taking today would repeal that are good for the health and well-being of the American people. This bill is not just about health care; it's about the good health of the American people.

□ 1640

It's about prevention. It's about wellness. It's about electronic medical records that will change everything in terms of access to care and the quality of your care because your records are wherever you are. It's entrepreneurial.

Our Founders, in their dedication, in their sacrifice, in their courage called for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as goals of our new Republic, of our democracy; and this bill honors the vows of our Founders in just that way—a healthier life, the liberty to pursue your happiness. If you're an artist or if you're a photographer or a writer, if you want to be self-employed, if you want to start a business, if you want to change jobs, whatever it is, you are no longer job-locked because you can only go as fast in reaching your passion and your aspirations as your health insurance program will take you.

If you have a child with a preexisting medical condition, or if you're concerned with being sick yourself, you no longer are confined in your pursuit of happiness by the cost of a health care premium or the ability to even get one. It is entrepreneurial.

We even see articles now, and, Mr. Chairman, you have pointed them out in the public media about young people, or not even young people, but people who want to leave companies and start their own businesses. They're waiting for this bill to be fully implemented so they have that freedom to go forth.

So while I think it is a waste of the public's time to take this bill up on the floor of the House, to hear my col-

leagues talk on the floor, you think either they don't know what they're talking about, or they do. But in either case, they're not presenting the facts about what this legislation does.

It is going to be right up there with Social Security and Medicare as pillars of economic and health security for the American people. It is going to make us more competitive internationally because our businesses will not have an anvil of the rising cost of health care. It reduces the deficit, improves the health and well-being of the American people. It's about the entrepreneurial spirit of America. It honors the vows of our Founders of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This legislation should be rejected; and pretty soon more people, as they take advantage of the legislation, will see just how important it is to them individually and how important it is to the health and well-being of our country.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I now yield 1 minute to Mr. DOUG LAMALFA from California.

Mr. LAMALFA Madam Speaker, I'm pleased to be able to join my colleague, Mrs. BACHMANN, on this legislation.

We do have a history in the past of repealing bills, such as Prohibition. It has been done, so this one would have near the same status in size by the time it's all done.

I'm from California. We know a lot about boondoggles in California, going back to high-speed rail and other issues like that. They call this the Affordable Care Act, and it's still being done with a straight face. Really? Price tag: it was advertised as \$900 billion. Now it's approaching \$2 trillion.

Jobs—48 percent of business owners are saying that they're holding off on new hires because of the ObamaCare health care takeover.

Taxes—again, affordable? There's over a trillion dollars in new taxes with more in sight. How are we calling this affordable?

We've had seven different measures to repeal portions of the Obama health care takeover, with more on the way.

And this part is really great: thousands of new IRS enforcers will be hired to help implement ObamaCare. Isn't that great. I ask you to support H.R. 45.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield the balance of my time, 1½ minutes, to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) to close.

(Mr. ANDREWS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, on the east coast it's almost the end of the workday. And we know that somewhere a mom who stood on her feet all day in a retail store, or broken her back all day in a nursing home, will come home, and she will see that her son or her daughter isn't feeling very well, is too sick to eat dinner, can't seem to sleep through the night.

Most of us in this country have the privilege of taking that child to the pediatrician or to the emergency room

right away. Right away. But for over 40 million people in this country, they don't have that privilege. She'll hesitate because she'll think, maybe my daughter will get better by the morning, because a trip to the emergency room for that family might also mean a trip to the bankruptcy court.

We are here today to honor her work, not disrespect it. Almost every day here the Wall Street bankers, the oil barons, the big shots get their way. Her day is coming on January 1, 2014, because for the first time in this country's history, we'll do more than talk about the fact that we honor her. We will honor her work and honor her family with affordable health insurance. That day is coming.

This charade won't stop it. No amount of misrepresentation will cease it. That day is coming. Her work will be honored. The Affordable Care Act will be implemented.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I came here 4½ years ago in a bipartisan way to work on health care reform which this country desperately needed. We've now had 3 years to look at the Affordable Care Act, and I wish the bill had done as everyone had described here today. I wish that it had done that. I wish that costs had gone down. I wish that businesses were hiring everybody because of this bill. I wish that taxes were not going up. But none of these are true. They are. And I wish that we had debated this bill in an open manner here by regular order, the Senate version of the bill on this very floor of the House, which we did not.

So I asked our insurance commissioner today in Tennessee, if we did not pass this bill—and you just heard me say earlier in the debate about premiums going up 50-plus percent—I said if we did absolutely nothing, what would happen to rates in Tennessee? They would go up about 8 to 10 percent. We would be much better off in my State and around this country; and, again, I came here in a bipartisan way not to work on a partisan bill, which is what this is.

Madam Speaker, we need to repeal this bill and to replace it with patient-centered reforms that put patients and doctors back in charge of health care decisions.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 45, legislation to repeal ObamaCare. In March of 2010, then-Speaker PELOSI famously

said, with respect to the President's health care law:

We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what's in it.

□ 1650

Well, Washington Democrats passed that bill, and virtually every week since has been an expensive, eye-opening experience.

Over the past 3 years, it's become clear that ObamaCare is irreparably flawed, fails to deliver on its promises and causes serious harm to our economy. The legislation before the House is the first step toward fixing all of these problems. We must first repeal this onerous law and then move forward and work with stakeholders to develop step-by-step, commonsense reforms that actually lower the cost of health care and respect the patient-doctor relationship.

The President's health care law is, at its core, a flawed policy. It puts the Federal Government precisely where it doesn't belong, between Americans and their doctors. Instead of families deciding what coverage is best for them, or families and employers deciding how much they can afford, this law has the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the IRS making those decisions.

ObamaCare also falls short of almost every one of the President's and congressional Democrats' promises for the law. It doesn't control costs, doesn't let Americans keep the insurance they have and like, doesn't protect jobs, doesn't ensure seniors have access to their doctors and hospitals, and doesn't prevent 21 new tax increases, including more than a dozen that will hit middle class families. Simply put, it's a resounding failure.

If that wasn't enough, the health care law is causing serious harm to our economy at a time when it's struggling to climb out of the hole dug by the administration's failed economic policies.

We've received countless reports of businesses reluctant to hire, or shifting employees from full-time to part-time employment because of the steep costs associated with complying with the law. This is simply unacceptable. Well over 11 million Americans remain unemployed.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to repeal this burdensome law and continue working toward real reform that lowers costs and improves the quality of health care in this country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself such time as I shall consume.

I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Here we go again. This vote is more than just a sideshow. It's an embarrassing spectacle that has consumed House Republicans for more than 2 years, to the detriment of our economy and millions of Americans looking for work.

Republicans, on this, have their legislative heads in the sand and their feet in cement.

The Republicans are blind to the benefits that so many are already experiencing through ACA. It's already helping millions of Americans, with many millions more set to gain insurance coverage through the marketplaces next year.

With their feet in cement, 37 times House Republicans will have voted to repeal all or part of ObamaCare.

More than 50 million—50 million—taxpayer dollars have been spent by House Republicans through the dozens of hours Republicans have devoted to floor votes to try to repeal ObamaCare, which even Speaker BOEHNER acknowledged last year is the law of the land.

Since the beginning of 2011, Republicans have spent no less than 15 percent of their time on the House floor trying to repeal ObamaCare, when they know it would not happen.

Yet, not once this year, not once, have Republicans turned their focus toward job creation. What we have here, repeal, is a Republican obsession.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP. At this time I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY), a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, as a physician with 30 years' experience, clinical experience, I rise to vigorously oppose ObamaCare once again. We need to repeal this abomination. Why?

Just take a look at this chart. Where's the doctor, and where's the patient?

Well, look at the corner. Physician's way here in the corner. Patient's way over there.

And what's at the center of this?

The Department of Health and Human Services with the Secretary. And at the top, the IRS. And we all know what's going on with the IRS today. How can we trust an entity like that to enforce this abomination of a health law?

Doctors and patients deal with very personal information, very personal. That's why you have to preserve the sanctity of the doctor-patient relationship. And having all this between the doctor and the patient is basically a recipe for massive failure. That's why we must repeal it. That's why I stand with my colleagues to repeal it.

Let's do the right thing. Let's go step by step and get sensible, real reforms that will make Americans proud of their health care system.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL).

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I think all of us came to this august body with the mandate that we should try to improve the quality of life for our constituents and, therefore, the United States, the people that made our country so great. Education, health care, jobs, these are the things we want to do.

But it's reached a point that this is no longer just putting Democrats in a political advantage. What it is doing is embarrassing the entire Congress, and I dare say, people in the country recognize that there's something wrong going on in Congress.

Now, those of you that have taken Civics 101 know that there is no intention to repeal this act.

People are waiting to get jobs. They're waiting, really, to get health care. And we're on the move for that.

I've been here over 4 decades, and darn it the devil, we've been trying to get universal care. We're almost there.

Now, if you're talking about repeal, it takes a majority of both Houses to pass this bill. The President's going to veto it. And you have to have two-thirds of both Houses in order to repeal. That is not going to happen, and you know it.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE), a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the Chair's leadership on this.

This law has been in place now for a little over 3 years. So, as a physician, let's look at the symptoms of this law. Cost of premiums: increasing. Access to your doctor or your plan: already more difficult. Quality of health care going down because of Washington interference. Innovation: terribly affected, harming quality in this country. Choices for patients: decreased.

So let me get this straight. Increasing costs, less access, lower quality, less innovation, limiting your choices.

Madam Speaker, that's a life-threatening and terminal diagnosis.

It's time to repeal the ACA and adopt patient-centered health care, where patients and families and doctors make medical decisions, not Washington and the IRS.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT), who's the ranking member on the Health Subcommittee.

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Well, Madam Speaker, it's Thursday. Everybody's going home. Got to have your press release ready.

So here we come. The thirty-seventh time they're going to try and repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Now, you've heard a lot of nonsense already in two speakers, absolute untruths told right here about killing jobs and about rising premiums.

Washington State put out their premiums yesterday, and their premiums for young people are down by 15 percent. All that hyperbole about going up 450 percent, or whatever we hear, is nonsense. It is simply fearmongering and, you know, the deficit comes down, insurance is more affordable and accessible and, at the most, 33 percent have been convinced by this stuff over here.

In my home State, people are ready and willing to do it. Our Governor went out and set it up, and we're going to go and do it.

Now, the only thing the Republicans are angry about is that ObamaCare's going to become the law. It's being implemented. It's going to be in place in October. It drives them nuts that they can't figure a way to stop it.

□ 1700

They've come out here once a month to try and repeal it over and over and over again, and they keep failing. That's pretty close to the definition of mental illness: doing the same thing over and over again and thinking you're going to get a different result. You are not going to get a different result. The fact is that this is about votes. We have a new crop of freshmen who are getting their campaigns ready, and they've got to have that check in the box that says, I voted against ObamaCare. Vote "no."

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK).

Mrs. BLACK. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I stand here today outraged by the fact that the Internal Revenue Service has been targeting conservative groups since as early as 2010. This is not a Republican or Democrat issue. This is a First Amendment issue, one that should be a wake-up call about the dangers of the new, expansive powers afforded to the IRS under ObamaCare. No government agency, particularly one with such corruption and apparent disregard for the Constitution as the IRS, has any business accessing or monitoring Americans' personal health information.

As I speak here today, government bureaucrats are building the Federal data services hub, the largest personal information database ever created by the U.S. Government. And because of ObamaCare, five major government agencies are compiling information for the data hub, including the IRS, HHS, Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, and Social Security Administration.

What this hub means is that government bureaucrats are gaining unprecedented access and power over the American people's financial, health, and personal information through the implementation of ObamaCare.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CAMP. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Mrs. BLACK. The IRS scandal begs the question: How can President Obama and the congressional Democrats continue to support ObamaCare, a law that gives more power to the IRS? Ultimately, the IRS scandal is yet another example of why ObamaCare must be repealed—for the sake of our health care, our economy, and our constitutional freedoms.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts, a distinguished member of our committee, Mr. NEAL.

(Mr. NEAL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, today I rise in opposition to the repeal of the Patients' Rights Act. Seventy-one million Americans have already taken advantage of this opportunity for preventive health care services, 100 million Americans no longer will have a lifetime limit on their health insurance program, and young adults can stay on their parents' health insurance until they're 26. Ninety-eight percent of the people of Massachusetts are insured. The number regularly polls in the high 70s for customer satisfaction.

Let me just state this with some degree of certainty: the best hospitals in the world are in Massachusetts. Arguably, the best doctors in the world are in Massachusetts. Certainly the best teaching hospitals in the world are in Massachusetts. They've made it work. People are happy with the plan. If you're going to get sick, I say this to my Republican friends, as well, I'm going to get you a spot in Massachusetts.

Here's the point that we ought to be discussing today: the implementation of this successful plan. And I want to say this today tongue-in-cheek, but also with some satisfaction, we should thank Governor Romney for working with a Democratic legislature to make sure that the model for the Affordable Care Act was in place.

Let me say that again: thank Governor Romney for helping to make sure this plan was successful.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Madam Speaker, when ObamaCare was being debated, its champions and cheerleaders indicated it would create 4 million jobs, including 400,000 jobs almost immediately. I find it deeply disturbing, then, that when I travel back to my district in Indiana, I hear from constituents that jobs are already being lost and hours are being cut in anticipation of this law's implementation.

I've heard from numerous constituents who work low-wage, hourly jobs like school support employees; cafeteria workers, janitors, bus drivers and so on. They're being told that, due to ObamaCare's employer mandate, they will no longer be allowed to work more than 29 hours a week. ObamaCare's proponents have created an incredibly perverse incentive here. Who in their right mind endorses a law where the best business decision is to lay people off, and during a very down economy to boot?

If we're serious about addressing rising health care costs and putting

Americans back to work, we should repeal this law, and repeal it now, and replace it with sustainable, bipartisan health care solutions.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to another member of our committee, the distinguished gentleman from the State of Connecticut (Mr. LARSON).

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. I have an idea: What if The Heritage Foundation had an idea to reform our entire health care system? Even better, as Mr. NEAL says, what if that idea was piloted successfully by a Republican Governor in a Democratic State who would go on to become their nominee for President? What if that idea were brought to fruition nationally through the Affordable Care Act so it could provide American citizens, especially the uninsured and those with preexisting conditions, to become the focus of our energy and concern in Washington? An emphasis on wellness by seeking to enhance the best in the private sector, the best in the academic sector and the public health initiatives that have guided this great country of ours?

What if we do what the American people expect us to do, instead of quibbling over partisan issues—rolling up our sleeves and coming together for a solution to the American people?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. What if we come together, and instead of quibbling over the Affordable Care Act, we rolled up our sleeves and put the Nation to work? Every day we waste in ideological turmoil is another day lost in the opportunity to help the American people and the key, as Mr. RYAN states, to driving down our national debt. Come together with us, Republicans, solve this issue for America.

Mr. CAMP. At this time, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say it is time to pull ObamaCare out root by root. We all know that it increases premiums and squeezes the family budget. We know that it does not let you keep the plan that you have today. We all know that ObamaCare is crushing jobs and forcing many parents who have full-time jobs today into tomorrow's part-time jobs.

And now we have some new information as we prepare to vote. The chief enforcers of this law, the IRS, have been outed as partisan political operatives. They've harassed, bullied, and suppressed the political opponents of the Obama administration. And now they want to be in charge of our health care? Give me a break. I don't think so.

Members, this is your chance. This is your chance to weigh in on the IRS scandal. A vote to repeal is a vote to stop the IRS, but voting to keep

ObamaCare is a vote to empower the IRS as the health care police of the United States. The choice is easy. Vote to take power away from the IRS, not to give them more.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. Like a broken record repeating the same old, scratchy, sad verse, these Republicans cannot stop repeating their record of indifference to the health care crisis. They've given up on "repeal and replace" because all they ever cared about was the repeal part. As the Party of No, this year they have not advanced a single health care proposal as an alternative.

I only wish that the Affordable Care Act were as good as they think it is bad. But to the millions who have received refunds from insurance company monopolies for overcharging, to the millions who are no longer denied coverage by the fine print in an insurance policy they didn't write, to the seniors who are getting some help on their prescription drugs and preventive care, to the millions more who will be able to finally apply in October for coverage they do not have now, and for the small businesses who will receive assistance in supplying their employees with the coverage they have been unable to afford in the past, you know, this ObamaCare works pretty well.

□ 1710

Together, we could make it better. We could make it more accessible for more individuals—like the many people in Texas who will be denied by Governor Perry's decision to refuse 100 percent of the cost of Medicaid protection. Together, we could provide more cost-effective care and do something more about spiraling health care costs. But really, the only true Republican alternative to ObamaCare is "nothing care."

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK).

(Mr. BENISHEK asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENISHEK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge support of H.R. 45, legislation that will repeal the President's massive and unaffordable health care law. As a doctor, I am extremely concerned with many different aspects of the bill, which is broad and overreaching.

When this law was passed, I was in northern Michigan treating patients and wondering how this bill would change the relationship between a doctor and his patients. I can tell you that after my 30 years of experience and after continuing to speak with doctors, nurses, hospital administrators, and patients across northern Michigan, there are innumerable problems with this law, and it needs to be repealed.

Thanks to ObamaCare, we will face severe problems with access to quality

health care. We are looking at massive cuts to reimbursements to hospitals and other care providers, cuts that will end up limiting access to care.

ObamaCare does not fulfill the most basic promises that were used to pass this law. Health care costs have not gone down. My constituents are not able to "keep their plans."

These are just some of the reasons why I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill so we can work together to provide patient-centered reform that will reduce costs and expand access.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to another member of our committee, the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition and in support—in support—of the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

Madam Speaker, you know we've gone through this many times. You've attempted in committee and subcommittee to try to undercut the patients' rights to health care, and it wasn't successful.

By the way, the IRS is not the individual agency that is the operative of health care. Where in God's name did you get that from? There hasn't been much truth spoken today on the floor over there.

Whether in town halls or small group meetings, I ask this question when we talk about health care. I ask individuals to raise their hands if they're against, number one—you ought to raise your hands, too—closing the Medicare doughnut hole for seniors; are you for that or are you against it? Allowing children to stay on a family's health plan until they're 26 years of age; are you for that or are you against it? Ensuring Americans are not denied insurance for preexisting conditions; are you for that or are you against that? Or helping American families avoid medical bankruptcy.

Every meeting not one hand goes up. How many over there? Raise your hand. Free country. I'll wait 2 seconds. Maybe you didn't hear me.

In New Jersey, a report by the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group explained that by repealing health reform, employers would see health costs grow by more than \$3,000 a year and, most shocking, New Jersey would have 10,000 fewer jobs.

Let's get it straight. In conclusion, let me ask my colleagues, in voting, those who will vote for repeal, is the opposition willing to increase the deficit? Because you already used the money from the Health Care Act to pay your budget, or else it doesn't even balance in 50 years. Are they willing to give the power back to the insurance companies? You've got to ask that question.

We've come down to the skinny right now. This is down to the bare bones. Are you willing to allow premiums to escalate? Better ask yourself those questions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds the Members to address

their remarks to the Chair and not to others in the second person.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. RADEL).

Mr. RADEL. Heavy-handed government has been chipping away at our freedom and your freedom and your opportunity for generations, whether it's Big Government Democrat programs or, to be bipartisan, Big Government Republican programs. And that brings us to this debate today on the Affordable Care Act, which is not affordable and it is not about health care. It is about control.

Your freedom, your choices between you and your doctor no longer between you and your doctor. Someone from here in D.C., in some way, shape, or form will be involved in your most personal decisions. Freedom and opportunity, the freedom to choose insurers, insurance, and your doctor in a truly free market now gone.

This repeal is about your opportunity, which ObamaCare is already taking away from you. I want you to have a job. I want you to work more than 39 hours a week.

This repeal is about your freedom. I want you to keep more money in your pocket. I want you to have low premiums. I want you to have a choice—your choice, not Washington, D.C.'s.

This Affordable Health Care Act is not affordable and it is not about health care. It's about control.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds the Members to address their remarks to the Chair and not a perceived viewing audience.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time remains on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) has 9 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) has 10½ minutes remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

We've heard a lot about the fact that this is the 37th vote to take away health care from hardworking Americans, but let me put that in context.

Under the Republican majority, we have spent over 56 hours on the floor debating repeal of the law of the land—and that doesn't even come close to capturing how much committee time, amendment debate, and general grandstanding has been spent on this bill.

Now, it is tempting, but I'm going to avoid illustrating this point with comparisons like telling you how many times you could have watched "Gone With the Wind" in that same amount of time—although, as a matter of fact, you could have watched it 15 times. What I want to talk about is what else we could have done with that 56 hours of Congress' time and energy:

We could have acted on a real jobs plan to get our economy moving;

We could have come together on a plan to avert the devastating sequester cuts that are hitting our Head Start programs, our cancer patients, and our military, just to name a few;

We could have moved forward on immigration reform, gun violence prevention, or infrastructure development, but we haven't.

Now, my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle have been using a chart—an incomprehensible chart, something that no American can understand—to try to demonstrate how the Affordable Care Act works. Well, it just so happens I have a chart right here. This is the Republican plan to deal with the absence of the Affordable Care Act. It's right here. This is the chart. This is the chart right here. I will try to explain it to you. In fact, it's self-explanatory. They have no plan. They have no plan to substitute the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. In fact, they haven't a plan for health care at all.

So, my colleagues, my colleagues, I just wish my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would spend as much time building America up as they've tried to tear it down because, frankly, my colleagues, I do give a darn.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP).

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 45 to repeal ObamaCare.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I know our health care system is broken, but this form of Washington meddling only makes it worse. The President's law puts too much control in the hands of the Federal Government, creating a complex system that emphasizes government intrusion over actual patient care.

There is no reason for the IRS to play a role in our health care system, favoring one and punishing another. Medical decisions already cause deep anxiety in the lives of too many Americans. Why compound that with the weight of an audit?

Our goal should be simple: respect you as a patient and connect you to the doctor that you deserve. Patient-centered solutions place you, the patient, at the center of our health care system, simplifying your life, not pushing you to the corner of Big Government sprawl.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve full repeal.

□ 1720

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to another member of our committee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

As some of my colleagues on the other side prepare to vote in favor of this legislation, I want to make sure

that the American people know that they are taking 13 million Americans' rebates that they got from insurance companies last summer, totaling at least \$1.1 million.

They will be voting to repudiate the fact that beginning last summer, millions of women began receiving free coverage for preventive services.

They will be voting to take away the fact that 17 million children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied coverage by insurers.

And they will be voting to take away the coverage of 6.6 million young adults, who, up to age 26, are able to be on their parents' insurance coverage, half of whom without it would have no coverage at all.

They will actually be voting, Madam Speaker, to take America's health care backwards. We can't afford to go there.

I urge that we vote "no."

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, at this time, I yield to the distinguished chairman of the Health Subcommittee for the purposes of controlling the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY) will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to a new leader in health care, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO).

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I stand today to show my support for H.R. 45, the repeal of the largest legislative piece of malpractice ever passed through the Halls of Congress.

This one bill, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, has done more to disrupt our economy and bring uncertainty to the marketplace than anything I have witnessed.

My colleagues on the other side talk about jobs and no job creation on this side. We are working to create jobs here by repealing this bill. This is the number one job-killing bill in America, and it has rocked the engine that drives our economy—the business owner and the entrepreneur that create the jobs. Without jobs being created, the hardworking Americans will lose their jobs and they are going to lose their health care.

Instead of health care reform, Congress created a health care tax. It is a tax that will be paid by all Americans young, old, rich, or poor.

Today, in response to the people who have had enough, the White House declared this: "It's the law." My response on behalf of the people I represent is this: Not for long.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to another distinguished member of our committee, Mr. BLUMENAUER, from the State of Oregon.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, this is, as has been pointed out, the 37th attempt to repeal the health care reform. It has been my privilege to run 37 marathons in my career, but at least when you run a marathon you get someplace.

Millions of people are benefiting from the health care reform. Over a third of a million small businesses are getting tax credits to be able to help insure their employees. We are seeing aggressive efforts at better care, lower cost, eliminating lifetime limits, keeping young people on their parents' insurance policies.

Madam Speaker, we are finding across America there are literally hundreds of thousands of people working on the implementation of this legislation. Is it perfect? I haven't seen a perfect bill, especially one that is dealing with 17 percent of our economy. It is a dramatic improvement over what we have got. But instead of working with us to refine and improve over the course of the last 4 years, we go through these pointless exercises without offering an alternative.

My friend, my colleague from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), had their plan: a blank piece of poster board. No specifics; no effort to come forward with something that would do a better job of meeting the needs of seniors' prescription drug problems, young people, patient protection, lifetime limits, payment reform.

I will tell you, in Oregon I have met with thousands of professionals in the health care arena who are working cooperatively on making sure that Oregon is a model of how to do it right.

The health care reform train has left the station. We are not going to be repealing it today. We ought to be working to refine it in the future.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I yield 1½ minutes to a new member of the Ways and Means Committee, a job creator, a businessman himself, who has had to deal with rising health care costs, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is interesting to hear as we go through this tonight about just how important and how great a piece of legislation this is. I've got to tell you, there is an old saying out there: "Of all the words of mouth and pen, the saddest are what could have been." This could have been a miraculous piece of legislation.

Wouldn't it have been wonderful if both sides of the aisle had been able to work on it? Wouldn't it have been wonderful to have some debate and some amendment on it? Wouldn't it have been wonderful not to have to wait until midnight and shove it down the American people's throat? And wouldn't it have been wonderful for guys like me who have small businesses to be actually able to look at this and think to the future that, you know, I can actually plan?

ObamaCare is making this Nation sick. It is having a terrible effect on our economy. They keep people from hiring.

But do you know what it does, and it is the worst thing of all? It drives a wedge between business owners and

business operators and their employees and their associates. That is the biggest problem. We are trying to make those people—the owners, the managers of the businesses—the bad guys.

Listen, the bad guy in this case is the United States Government. We have done something that is absolutely reprehensible. You cannot do that to people who make a living working with each other and then put them on opposite sides of a case. Better health care? Absolutely. Affordable, accessible? Absolutely. This piece of legislation did not do that.

I am intrigued by the amount of passion that we see now from the other side when there was so little concern at the time it was crafted to even bring the providers to the table and ask their opinion. You talk about having a piece of legislation ready. It is law. We know it is law. But do you know what? We are not going to quit trying until we go to the will of the American people.

I will tell you all, please go out to your constituents, go out to the people who actually create the jobs and find out how difficult we have made it for them with this piece of legislation.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, how much time is remaining on each side, please?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan has 3½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Texas has 6¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama, a former district attorney, State legislator, and county commissioner, who understands how communities struggle with health care, Mr. BROOKS.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to proudly vote to repeal ObamaCare, the most dysfunctional law to ever pass United States Congress.

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional? For the vast majority of Americans, ObamaCare guarantees worse health care at higher costs.

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional? ObamaCare imposes 21 new taxes on America; thereby, according to the Congressional Budget Office, costing 800,000 Americans to lose their jobs.

In my home State of Alabama, just one of those tax increases imposes roughly \$200 million a year in higher tax burdens on Blue Cross/Blue Shield, costs that will translate into higher premiums for Alabama citizens.

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional? Those 21 tax increases come nowhere close to paying for the increases in ObamaCare costs, thereby either denying health care to American citizens or forcing even higher taxes on already stressed family incomes.

□ 1730

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional? It gives Americans worse health care.

Doctors and patients will largely be shut out of costly lifesaving health

care decisions. Instead, Independent Payment Advisory Board bureaucrats will decide whether ObamaCare will pay for the treatments that save your life or risk ending it.

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional?

It suppresses the research and development necessary for the discovery of the next generation of lifesaving diagnostic tools and medical cures.

Why is ObamaCare dysfunctional?

It drastically drives up health insurance premiums for Americans who work for a living.

Madam Speaker, while my friends across the aisle bemoan today's vote to protect Americans from a dysfunctional ObamaCare, I rejoice that Republicans in the House of Representatives say that when American lives are at stake, we will never give up, and we will never, never surrender.

Mr. LEVIN. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. At this time, Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to a long distinguished Member of this House and one who is very knowledgeable of health care and the costs to families and businesses, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

In my role as chairman of the Health and Human Services Subcommittee of Appropriations, we oversee the budget for ObamaCare. I can tell you that the money is not there even for implementation. The request was for \$1.2 billion. Now it has accelerated up to \$1.7 billion, and there is no funding for it available. So here we are on the eve of the largest takeover of a private sector function in United States history, and the money is not there to implement it.

So what does the Secretary of HHS do? She goes to the private sector and says, We need to get money from you to implement ObamaCare.

Now, that is like the Mafia's shaking down businesses for protection money. I'm not saying at all that the Secretary would be trying to do that purposely, but it is similar to it. How can you ask people for money, whom you regulate, in order to implement a program that they're going to fall under? That is just repugnant to any American, and we can't let that happen.

The money is not there. We need to vote "no" and send this thing back to committee and look at it another day and in another way.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman for his time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

I simply want to say thanks. My good friend Mr. CROWLEY indicated that there is no plan on the other side, but look at the list that I can give, and let me just emphasize Texas:

For the gentleman from the business community, 360,000 small businesses

are using the health care tax credit for their workers that is provided by the health insurance under the Affordable Care Act;

There are 17 million children with preexisting conditions in the country who no longer can be denied coverage by insurers;

Then, of course, what we are finding out is those who treat those with cancer are suffering because there are cuts in Medicare and those cuts in Medicare are coming because of my friends on the other side. The Affordable Care Act will provide an umbrella for those who are in need;

Then we find out that Texas, itself, has 3.4 million women and over 1.8 million seniors and people with disabilities who are benefiting from the Affordable Care Act.

More importantly, we have articles that suggest that the poverty in Texas is going up and that Texas has the highest uninsured people in the Nation. How can people from Texas vote against this? How can they vote against this?

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 45, the 37th attempt by House Republicans to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This bill is as bad as the previous 36 and has no chance of becoming law. And that is a good thing because the Affordable Care Act has and continues to be a life saver for millions of Americans.

The leadership of this Congress may want to give new members of Congress the opportunity to tell the people back home that they voted to repeal "Obamacare." Unfortunately, they are also causing anxiety in people who know that without the Affordable Care Act they have no other option for healthcare.

I believe it is important to remind new members of this body and those who are closely watching this debate that the Affordable Care Act is law. People living in each of the Congressional Districts represented in this body are benefiting from the Affordable Care Act.

Many of those most in need of the healthcare coverage provided by the Affordable Care Act live in the Districts of many of the new members of Congress. Texas, my own state, leads the list of states with the highest percentages of uninsured residents.

Those states with the highest percentage of uninsured are:

Texas with 28.8 percent; Louisiana with 24 percent; Nevada with 23.3 percent; California with 23.2 percent; Florida with 22.8 percent; Georgia with 22.5 percent; Arkansas with 21.9 percent; Mississippi with 21.7 percent, and Oklahoma with 21.4 percent.

The highest concentration of the uninsured is the poor. The Affordable Care Act provides at no or nearly no cost to states an option to enroll those living in or near poverty into their Medicaid program.

This option would help states in three ways—reduce the cost to states for those insured through Medicaid, reduce the numbers of poor persons without healthcare insurance and address the problem associated with the high cost of persons who arrive at local emergency rooms in need of very expensive critical care. Health care costs that result from emergency room ad hoc primary healthcare are unpaid medical expenses passed on to everyone.

The idea of everyone paying something towards their healthcare was a Republican idea that was put into practice in the State of Massachusetts by then Governor Mitt Romney six years ago. Today, Massachusetts has the lowest percentage of uninsured residents' and a model for where every state could be in six years or less.

Just taking advantage of the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid option would help reduce the numbers of uninsured persons living in the United States.

Medicaid would provide the much needed support to our nation's most vulnerable by providing early diagnosis and treatment for chronic conditions. In many cases conditions could be caught prior to the onset of disease and allow medical professionals the opportunity to work with patients to avoid the major drivers of health care cost: diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity, which can lead to heart and arterial disease as well as kidney disease.

Many watching today's debate may wonder why this is an issue—money from the federal government that would reduce their state tax burden associated with Medicaid. The issue is governors who reject extending Medicaid coverage to their state's poor. The Governors in the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maine, Wisconsin, Iowa, Idaho, and South Dakota need to hear from residents who want healthcare cost to be lower and more people covered.

As a resident of Texas and a Member of Congress representing a Congressional District in the state, I sent a letter to Governor Rick Perry in response to his letter of March 14, 2013, in which he re-affirmed his opposition to expanding the Medicaid program in Texas.

For all of the pro-business talk by the Governor over the last few months—his position on this issue will lead to higher local and state sales taxes; unduly burden local governments, and needlessly place the health and safety of millions of Texas children and adults at risk.

The infusion of federal funds associated with the state accessing the Affordable Care Act Medicaid option would increase economic out of Texas by \$67.9 billion.

A May 13, 2013, editorial in the Houston Chronicle titled "Medicaid costs driven by poverty," outlined why the Congress should be focused on ending the sequester and creating jobs if we are serious about reducing taxpayer dollars going to Medicaid.

Poverty is the reason for higher Medicaid costs—if we work to reduce poverty then Medicaid costs would decline.

Because of the Affordable Care Act, Americans are already seeing lower costs, better coverage, and patient protections that Republicans want to repeal:

13 million Americans benefited from \$1.1 billion in rebates sent to them from their health insurance companies last year.

105 million Americans have access to free preventive services, including 71 million Americans in private plans and 34 million seniors on Medicare.

Millions of women began receiving free coverage for comprehensive women's preventive services in August 2012.

100 million Americans no longer have a lifetime limit on healthcare coverage.

Nearly 17 million children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied coverage by insurers.

6.6 million young adults up to age 26 have health insurance through their parents' plan, half of whom would be uninsured without this coverage.

6.3 million Seniors in the 'donut hole' have already saved \$6.1 billion on their prescription drugs.

3.2 million Seniors have access to free annual wellness visits under Medicare, and 360,000 small employers have already taken advantage of the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit to provide health insurance to 2 million workers.

Because of the Affordable Care Act 3.8 million people in Texas—including 2.2 million seniors on Medicare now receive preventative care services. Over 7 million Texans no longer have to fear lifetime limits on their healthcare insurance. Texas parents of 300,731 young adults can sleep easier at night knowing that their children can remain on their health insurance until age 26.

The protection provided by this law is a guarantee to 5 million Texas residents that their insurance companies will spend 80 percent of their premium dollars on healthcare, or customers will get a rebate from their insurance company.

In my State, there are 4,029 people who had no insurance because of pre-existing conditions, but today the Affordable Care Act has provided them with access to coverage. The Affordable Care Act means that many Texans are free of worry about having access to healthcare insurance.

However, the list of benefits from the Affordable Care Act is not completed. In 2014, the Affordable Care Act's final provisions will become available to our citizens. Insurance companies will be banned from:

Discriminating against anyone with a pre-existing condition;

Charging higher rates based on gender or health status;

Enforcing lifetime dollar limits; and

Enforcing annual dollar limits on health benefits.

In 2014, access to affordable healthcare for the self-employed or those who decide to purchase their own coverage will be easier because of Affordable Insurance Exchanges. There will be a one stop marketplace where consumers can do what Federal employees have done for decades—purchase insurance at reasonable rates from an insurer of their choice. This will assure that health care consumers can get the care that they need from the medical professionals they trust.

Another reason why I oppose this bill—I offered six amendments, but none of them were accepted by the Rules Committee. I will explain what my amendments would have done to improve this bill.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 1 would have removed all of the bill text following the enacting clause of the legislation, which would have ended this exercise to repeal the Affordable Care Act. This legislation is so bad it cannot be salvaged and the United States would be better off without it.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 2 would have ensured full Medicare reimbursement to all hospitals including physician-owned hospitals with at least 100 beds, provided they could produce reliable records to document their claims for reimbursement.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 3 would have authorized additional funding to establish

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). These centers are the last line of defense provided in the bill to make sure those living on the margins of society—the poorest of the poor had access to reliable healthcare. FQHC programs would be based in clinics, community-based health care centers and pro-active outreach programs that target the homeless or marginally housed with information on how to get access to good healthcare.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 4 would have expanded state use of the Medicaid option of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care law when the uninsured rate of qualifying residents of a state exceeds 20 percent. States wishing to opt-out of Medicaid would have the option of submitting a plan to reduce the rate of uninsured to 20 percent or less to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. This amendment would have benefited Texas enormously since it leads the nation in uninsured residents at 28.8 percent. In fact Texas has held this number 1 ranking, of the State with the highest number of uninsured residents, for the last five consecutive years.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 5 would have established a program to conduct studies of minority health disparities. The amendment directed the Secretary of Health and Human Services to submit an annual report of findings regarding minority health disparities and make recommendations on how disparities may be reduced.

Jackson Lee Amendment Number 6 expressed the Sense of the Congress that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is law in the United States of America. The amendment enumerated each step that made it the law including a decision by the United States Supreme Court. The amendment then directed the Secretary of Health and Human Services to report to Congress on the impact of the law on those it is intended to help. The amendment would have not allowed this Congress to revisit repeal until it had research on the impact of the law to guide its further deliberation of repeal.

This Congress has work that needs to be done, and it has work that should be taken up to restore workers, their families and communities to sound economic health.

I urge my Colleagues to join me in voting no on the passage of this bill.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to yield 1 minute to the author of the legislation that we are debating today, the gentlelady from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN).

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Texas.

This is a bill that is changing the course of American history, and it is why we need to repeal this bill today. I believe, Madam Speaker, that we will see this bill ultimately repealed.

Why? Because it is women who will be hurt under this bill; it is senior citizens who will be hurt under this bill; and it is little vulnerable children who will be hurt under this bill—as well as families, as well as employers. All of America is at the cusp of being negatively impacted.

Here is just one example: this bill was sold out of compassion. We wanted people with preexisting conditions to find care, but the reality is less than 1 percent of those with preexisting con-

ditions were able to receive the assistance when the door was slammed shut.

Why? We ran out of money.

That's what ObamaCare has delivered—a lot of promises that can't be fulfilled. Before we go forward with this train wreck, let's make sure it ends so we can bring about cures, so we can bring about better developments in health care. That's what we want—health care for American citizens.

Mr. LEVIN. How much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan has 2½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Texas has 2¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself the balance of my time.

I am from Michigan, and 75 years ago, a predecessor brought forth ideas that at long last we would lift the shame of millions of Americans who go to bed without health care. Since that time, the numbers have grown. Today, there are over 50 million.

There was a reference to children. How many children today go to bed without a stitch of health care? Millions. How many women today go to bed without any health care coverage? We provided for seniors, and we have, so far, left most everybody out who needs some health care.

Then someone has the nerve to come forth and say there isn't enough money to implement—when Republicans won't provide that money. Someone comes forth here and says there isn't the money to cover those with preexisting conditions, and Republicans won't provide the money to provide further help for those people.

You talk about repeal and replace. The disgrace here is you're fixed on repeal, and you never have come forth to satisfy the needs and the conscience of the people of this country. That's a disgrace. This bill is a disgrace. The Republican conduct on this has been disgraceful.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

What is disgraceful are these thousands of pages of a bill that was rushed through this Congress with little chance to read it, laden with special interest provisions to buy off votes, while promises were made to the American people that their costs would go down, that they could keep their plans if they would like, and that the economy would boom. None of it happened, and Republicans were denied even one vote on the House floor to provide a real alternative. That's the disgrace.

Today, health care costs are going up. Independent experts say it could double in some States. Workers are finding out they can't keep their plans at work and that they'll be forced into the exchange. Who can afford more expensive health care? Almost two out of three small businesses aren't hiring because of this legislation.

I toured a power plant in Conroe where the cost of ObamaCare is so high

that it's the equivalent of building two new plants and of hiring 100 new workers. That won't happen. Local businesses are cutting jobs and cutting hours. One restaurant owner in Houston told his managers he will not hire another full-time worker—period. ObamaCare simply makes it too expensive.

When these concerns are voiced, what Democrats in Congress and the President say is, It's the law. Get over it. Just get over it.

The bottom line is that we are fighting to repeal ObamaCare because it will hurt too many patients, too many people, too many families. Bad laws should be stopped early before people get hurt.

Year in and year out we've wrestled with this Medicare formula to reimburse doctors. We got it wrong, and doctors and seniors are being hurt.

□ 1740

The alternative minimum tax has been a mess for years. The death tax, as well. Can you imagine how much pain we would have avoided if these bad laws had been stopped early before they hurt so many Americans?

Make no doubt about it, we needed health reform. But the President and Washington Democrats got it wrong. So let's repeal it now and replace it with real reforms that help patients, that help families, that help small businesses. Let's get government out of the office room, let's give patients real choices, and let's lower health care because ObamaCare, this Affordable Care Act, has failed on all of its promises.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS, Madam Speaker, it is unbelievable. With so much to be done—so much good that we could do—this Congress stops work to vote a 37th time to destroy health care reform. Thirty seven times! The voters have spoken. The Supreme Court has ruled. The Affordable Care Act is the law of the land and we will not go backwards.

The American people are counting on us to do what is right; what is just. We made a promise of health care to the American people. We must keep that promise. Vote no. Keep the promise of health care.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 45, the "Patients' Rights Repeal Act."

Today's vote will mark the 37th time that this House will vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act. It was only ten months ago when I spoke in opposition to the same bill being considered today. I would like to remind my colleagues of what repealing health care reform would mean for the Central New Jerseyans whom I represent.

Take, for example, Matt from West Windsor. Matt wrote me, "I graduated from college this past May and am currently working at a job with new health insurance. I have a pre-existing condition, and, shockingly, I truly would be without insurance and in big trouble if this legislation is reversed."

Carolyn from East Brunswick contacted me to say she had been laid off and her COBRA benefits were about to expire. Because of the

Affordable Care Act, she could enroll at age 25 as a dependent on her father's Federal employee benefits plan.

Mary from Princeton wrote to me that her son "has cystic fibrosis and he would be subject to both the lifetime cap on benefits and the denial because of preexisting conditions were it not for the provisions of the health reform."

Matt, Carolyn, and Mary's examples are not just anecdotal: they are representative of the numerous affordable and comprehensive health coverage benefits that New Jerseyans have gained under health care reform—as well as what they stand to lose if the Affordable Care Act were repealed.

For example, in addition to Matt, who was able to gain coverage as result of health care reform despite his pre-existing conditions, 1,343 previously uninsured residents of New Jersey who were locked out of the coverage system because of a pre-existing condition are now insured through a new Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan, which receives funding from the Affordable Care Act.

Carolyn is one of more than 73,000 young adults in New Jersey who gained insurance coverage as a result of the health care law.

Mary and her son, along with 3 million other people in New Jersey, including 1.2 million women and 877,000 children, are free from worrying about lifetime limits on coverage thanks to health care reform.

Republicans here in the House may be able to point to a business owner who has concerns over a provision of the law, or an adult who resists purchasing health insurance, but the truth is, the law has something to offer for every American. The Affordable Care Act requires that insurance companies spend the majority of your premium on health care—not on CEO bonuses or administrative costs. The law requires that Medicare coverage includes preventive services—such as flu shots and mammograms—without any cost sharing for our seniors. Furthermore, the law prohibits insurance companies from dropping someone when they get sick, or charging women more than men for the same health coverage. If you repeal the law, you take away these important provisions that make our health care more accessible, affordable, comprehensive, and reliable.

One does not bring a proposal to a vote 37 times out of a rational, considered desire to improve the lives of the American people. You do it out of an irrational, ideological vendetta. But the problem with irrational vendettas is that they are so focused on ideology that they ignore human consequences.

Stop ignoring Matt. Don't punish Carolyn. Don't overlook Mary and her son. Let's stop this foolish vendetta and do the real work we were sent here to do.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, we have millions of people out of work and a Republican majority that refuses to bring a real jobs bill to the floor. We have record drought across the United States and in my home state of Texas, and a Republican majority that has refused to bring a 5 year farm bill to the floor. In fact the only thing this Republican majority knows how to do is waste the Americans people's time. Ever since Republicans took the majority, they have created the most unproductive congresses in our history. We recently spent two days to vote on a helium bill that could have been voice voted in 5 minutes.

We are working in Washington this year for only 126 days. 126 days out of 365.

Instead of spending some of those precious work days on bills that can help Americans get back to work, we are here to vote for the 37th time to repeal Obamacare. This vote is a waste of time. This bill will never become law and they know that. They knew it the first 36 times we voted to repeal it, and they know it today, but Republican leadership needs to do it so the freshman tea party members can send out a press release and a fundraising email this weekend saying they voted to repeal it. Meanwhile in my district, farmers are struggling to grow crops, families are struggling to eat, and this Congress refuses to lift a finger to help them. They should be ashamed. Vote no on this bill.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 45, which would repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act has significantly improved access to health care for Americans, and I strongly support it.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, millions of Texans are already seeing lower health care costs and receiving better insurance coverage. Over 7.5 million Texans now have no lifetime limit on most health insurance benefits, which will protect them from having their insurance cut off if they require significant medical care.

The Affordable Care Act has lowered prescription drug costs for over 200,000 seniors in Texas by closing the gap in drug coverage known as the "donut hole." It has also allowed 357,000 young adults in Texas, who might otherwise be uninsured, to gain coverage through their parents' plan. Over 1.5 million consumers in Texas have received rebates from insurance companies because under the Affordable Care Act, insurers must spend at least 80 percent of premiums on medical care and quality improvement rather than CEO pay, profits, and administrative costs.

The Affordable Care Act also promotes equal treatment for women. Starting in 2014, insurers will not be allowed to charge women higher premiums than men simply because of their gender. Because of the Affordable Care Act, insured women are already able to receive critical preventive services such as mammograms, birth control, and well-woman visits without paying any out-of-pocket fees.

Today marks the 37th time that Republicans have voted to repeal or defund the Affordable Care Act. Unfortunately, Republicans seem to be treating the legislative calendar of the U.S. House of Representatives as a playing field for their political games. Instead, we should be working hard for the American people by passing legislation to create jobs, spur economic growth, and reform our broken immigration system.

The Affordable Care Act is the law of the land and it is working. Up to 17 million children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied health insurance, and nearly 13 million Americans have received \$1.1 billion in rebates from their insurance companies. Texans cannot afford to lose the crucial health benefits that the Affordable Care Act provides. That is why I plan to vote against H.R. 45 and all future efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. I am proud to stand with my colleagues and the President to support a health system that provides security, accountability, and peace of mind to Americans.

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, since the law's passage over three years ago, the Energy and Commerce Committee has conducted rigorous oversight to educate the country on how the law impacts patients, providers, the economy, taxpayers, and states. At every turn, we have encountered an ugly reality filled with broken promises, rampant uncertainty, rising premiums, and harsh consequences on jobs and our economy.

The alarm bells over how Obamacare will unfold are getting louder by the day: costs are going up, insurers are warning about premium increases, and small businesses are struggling with the choice about whether they can provide employees with coverage. One of the law's chief architects and ally of the president even scolded the administration over the looming "train wreck."

But as we fast approach the law's full implementation, the Obama administration is in full propaganda mode, and the facts don't seem to matter. Last week the president publicly declared, "And whenever insurance premiums go up, you're being told it's because of Obamacare. Even though there is no evidence that that's the case."

Mr. President, we have plenty of evidence, and sadly millions of Americans nationwide, from recent college graduates to older adults, will not be able to afford the law's rate shock. We have the plans of some of the nation's leading insurers for 2014, and the looming rate shock will be devastating. One of the nation's leading insurance companies that insures millions of folks predicts premiums will nearly double for individuals getting a new plan, those keeping their insurance will see an average increase of 73 percent, and some individuals could see increases of as much as 413 percent. The last three years have been littered with the Obama administration's broken promises. Today we keep our promise to the American people as we continue working to repeal this disastrous experiment, and work towards real solutions.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, ever since President Obama was first elected and chose to push through a federal takeover of America's health care system, House conservatives have led the charge to repeal the law commonly known as Obamacare and replace it with true reforms that will increase access and lower costs for consumers. With a string of broken promises from its authors and prominent backers, this law has already forced people off of the insurance they previously had, has increased premiums by thousands of dollars, and has reduced work hours for millions.

The fundamental question facing uninsured Americans was never, "how do we give the federal government more power over our lives?" Yet government control over health care was what the Democrat majority provided. House Republicans offered alternatives that gave our constituents the peace of mind to know that a safety net would be in place for the least fortunate amongst us, and provided commonsense reforms to allow those uninsured or underinsured to get the insurance they needed at an affordable price. Unfortunately, what we got was a law that, as former Speaker PELOSI famously stated, "we have to pass the bill so that you can find out what is in it." Well, we've read the bill, and the tens of thousands of pages of regulations to enforce it, and I can tell you the backlash and opposition to the law continues to mount.

One small example of the absurdity of this law is provided by a constituent of mine who lives in Virginia. This small business owner has chosen to insure his employees for the last forty years, helping his employees afford the insurance they need to keep their families healthy. Because of Obamacare, this company is required to spend more than \$30,000 to re-enroll their current employees. Let me repeat that. Even though these employees already have health insurance, the company is required to pay a fee for each and every one of them, to enroll the employee back into the exact same plan. That \$30,000, which could have been used to hire new workers or grow the local economy, will now be sent to bureaucrats in Washington. Instead of health insurance for Main Street, this appears to be health insurance for K Street.

Today the House has a chance to stop growing the size of government, and to give power and freedom back to the American people. Instead of propping up health care exchanges, bureaucratic IPAB rationing panels, and mandates which cost Americans thousands of dollars each year, let's start over and focus on the real needs of access to care and reduced costs of insurance. We can all admit that our health insurance system can use strengthening, but this is not the way to do it. If you are serious about reforming the health insurance system in this country, then join me in voting to repeal Obamacare and send a message to the American people that we have heard their anger and outrage over this law and we will do what it takes to see it repealed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 215, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mrs. CAPPS. I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Capps moves to recommit the bill H.R. 45 to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Add at the end of the bill the following new section:

SEC. 3. PRESERVING CERTAIN PATIENT BENEFIT PROTECTIONS FOR WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, AS GUARANTEED UNDER CURRENT LAW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 shall not apply with respect to the ACA women and families' patient benefit protection provisions described in subsection (b) until such date that all group health plans and health insurance issuers provide equivalent protections for women and their families as provided under all such provisions.

(b) ACA WOMEN AND FAMILIES' PATIENT BENEFIT PROTECTION PROVISIONS.—For purposes of subsection (a), ACA women and families' patient benefit protection provisions

described in this subsection are the following, as such provisions would be in effect before application of section 1:

(1) PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES COVERAGE WITHOUT COST SHARING.—Section 2713 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-13), relating to the coverage of preventive health services without cost sharing, including well-woman preventive care visits, breast cancer screening, mammography, screening for gestational diabetes, and screening for interpersonal and domestic violence.

(2) COVERAGE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PREEXISTING CONDITIONS.—Section 1101 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18001), relating to immediate access to insurance for uninsured individuals with a preexisting condition.

(3) ENSURING THAT CONSUMERS RECEIVE VALUE FOR THEIR PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—Section 2718 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-18), relating to the use of health insurance premiums primarily for health benefits rather than the administrative costs of insurance companies, including executive salaries and compensation.

(4) NO LIFETIME OR ANNUAL LIMITS.—Section 2711 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-11), relating to no lifetime or annual limits.

(5) PROHIBITION OF PREEXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSIONS FOR CHILDREN.—Section 2704 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-3), relating to the prohibition of preexisting condition exclusions or other discrimination based on health status, insofar as such section applies to enrollees who are under 19 years of age.

(6) COVERAGE OF ADULT CHILDREN UNTIL AGE 26.—Section 2714 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-14), relating to the extension of dependent coverage for adult children until age 26.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer the final and only amendment to this bill. And I want to be clear: passage of this amendment will not prevent the passage of the underlying bill. If it's adopted, my amendment will be incorporated into the bill, and the bill will be immediately voted upon.

My amendment would simply ensure that women and families do not lose the benefits they have already gained from ObamaCare in the event that the law is repealed.

These benefits are critical to keeping families healthy and identifying problems when they are easier and less costly to treat—benefits like the ability to get preventive health services without any copays.

Thanks to ObamaCare, no longer must women put off critical screenings like mammograms or colonoscopies because of the cost. And women are now able to be screened for domestic violence, gestational diabetes and receive other preventive care without worrying about whether they can pay for it. Millions of us have taken advantage of these potentially lifesaving screenings.

Similarly, young adults—the most uninsured age group in our country—now have the option of staying on their parents' insurance plan until they're 26. This is a real benefit, one that has already enabled 6.6 million young

adults to keep their health insurance coverage as they begin to make their way in life.

On top of these benefits, we now have protections from some of the most abusive insurance company practices. For example, no longer can insurance companies cut off your care just because you're too expensive to treat. For too long, individuals who paid their premiums and followed the rules would still be cut off after hitting arbitrary lifetime or annual caps on coverage.

These are our friends, they're our neighbors who did nothing wrong. They just got sick or had a tragic accident. Now they are protected, knowing their insurance coverage will be there when they need it.

In addition, mothers no longer have to worry that their children with a preexisting condition, like autism or asthma, will be denied health care. And starting this January, no American will be told that they cannot get coverage due to a preexisting condition.

All of these benefits have been secured while holding insurance companies accountable to use your premium dollars on actual health care, not on bonuses or advertising.

And all of these protections have been and would continue to be there for American families if my amendment passes.

You truly do not realize the importance of these protections until you or someone you love needs them. And that is exactly the case of Victoria Strong. She's a young mother living in my hometown of Santa Barbara, California.

Victoria's daughter, Gwendolyn, was diagnosed with a rare and extremely expensive disease when she was 6 months old. Despite the fact that she and her husband, Bill, had a good health insurance policy, one they paid thousands of dollars for each month, Victoria lived in constant fear that Gwendolyn would reach her lifetime policy limit before she even reached second grade, and because of her preexisting condition, Gwendolyn would then be uninsurable for the rest of her life.

I cannot imagine how difficult it was for young Victoria to not even know whether her child's basic health care needs would be covered or not in the future, and that's exactly what so many mothers faced before ObamaCare. But the elimination of lifetime caps on care has given Victoria peace of mind, and it's done the same for millions of mothers across this Nation.

That's exactly what ObamaCare is all about: fixing our broken health care system, fixing it for families like the Strong family, for women across this country, for their families. This law gets it right. And now we have one last vote to at least preserve the rights they already have.

I believe that all Americans would be better off if we in Congress worked to ensure swift implementation of the law

instead of wasting time and taxpayer dollars debating repeal for yet the 37th time. But I think we can all agree that taking away existing insurance protections from everyday Americans is the wrong thing to do just because we are setting out to repeal.

I remember the numerous hearings and markups about this law, and there was great agreement on both sides of the aisle that these consumer protections were critical to improving our broken health care system. So no matter what you think of this bill, my amendment would guarantee that no American family loses the care they have paid for now just when they need it the most.

□ 1750

The law provides legal protection and peace of mind to the Strong family in Santa Barbara and to all families like them across our Nation. Our families need this law; and if the majority is willing to vote for the 37th time to repeal it, they at least need to vote on this amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on my motion.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mrs. WALORSKI. I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can try as much as they would like today to distract the people from the real issue at hand. But the fact remains today that ObamaCare was bad policy when it was enacted, and it's getting worse the closer we get to its implementation.

When I hear from Hoosiers in the State of Indiana, from business owners trying to run companies to seniors seeking quality care options, I hear overwhelming uncertainty and concern, and ObamaCare is the driving force.

To protect Americans from this impending train wreck, I support full repeal of this law, which has been nothing more than a string of broken promises. Let's just quickly look at a few.

Broken promise number one: the President claimed that he would not sign a plan that adds one dime to our deficit. However, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that this bill adds almost \$2 trillion. After consecutive trillion-dollar deficits, our national debt is soaring towards \$17 trillion. It's time to stop spending money we simply don't have.

Broken promise number two: the President claimed that no family making less than \$250,000 a year will see their taxes increase. However, the Joint Committee on Taxation reports that ObamaCare includes 21 new or higher taxes that will cost taxpayers roughly \$1.1 trillion.

I recently had the chance to tour an orthopedic manufacturing company in my district in Mishawaka, Indiana. During this visit, I heard real-life sto-

ries from real-life employees about the taxes in ObamaCare. I was warned that the new medical device tax will prevent the company from creating good-paying jobs in Indiana for Hoosiers who are out of work. The reality is this tax will increase the cost of medical devices used by our senior citizens and our wounded warriors.

Broken promise number three: the President repeatedly claimed that his proposal could save families \$2,500 a year in health care premiums when, in fact, researchers from the Kaiser Family Foundation found that average family premiums have instead increased by over \$3,000 since 2008. If not repealed, this law will continue to increase premiums and eat away at the paychecks of single moms and young families all across the country. The reality, Madam Speaker, this Affordable Care Act is not so affordable.

Broken promise number four: the President claimed he would protect Medicare. But instead of protecting Medicare and making it stronger, he raided \$716 billion from the program to fund his government takeover of our health. The millions of seniors who depend on Medicare deserve better. My mom, a Medicare beneficiary, deserves better.

Madam Speaker, we don't need this law, period. We don't need a law that tramples over our freedoms by allowing the government to make our personal health care choices. We don't need a law that restricts our access to quality and affordable health care. And we definitely don't need a law enforced by an agency actively targeting citizens with opposing political views.

I urge all of my colleagues to defeat the motion to recommit and stand today and repeal ObamaCare.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 190, nays 230, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 153]

YEAS—190

Andrews	Bonamici	Carney
Barber	Brady (PA)	Carson (IN)
Barrow (GA)	Braley (IA)	Cartwright
Bass	Brown (FL)	Castor (FL)
Beatty	Brownley (CA)	Castro (TX)
Becerra	Bustos	Chu
Bera (CA)	Butterfield	Cicilline
Bishop (GA)	Capps	Clarke
Bishop (NY)	Capuano	Clay
Blumenauer	Cárdenas	Cleaver

Cohen	Johnson, E. B.	Peters (MI)
Connolly	Kaptur	Pingree (ME)
Cooper	Keating	Pocan
Costa	Kelly (IL)	Polis
Courtney	Kennedy	Price (NC)
Crowley	Kildee	Rangel
Cuellar	Kilmer	Richmond
Cummings	Kind	Roybal-Allard
Davis (CA)	Kirkpatrick	Ruiz
Davis, Danny	Kuster	Ruppersberger
DeFazio	Langevin	Rush
DeGette	Larsen (WA)	Ryan (OH)
Delaney	Larson (CT)	Sánchez, Linda T.
DeLauro	Lee (CA)	Sanchez, Loretta
DelBene	Levin	Sarbanes
Deutch	Loebsock	Schakowsky
Dingell	Lofgren	Schiff
Doggett	Lowenthal	Schneider
Doyle	Lowe	Schrader
Duckworth	Lujan Grisham (NM)	Schwartz
Edwards	Luján, Ben Ray (NM)	Scott (VA)
Ellison	Lynch	Scott, David
Enyart	Maffei	Serrano
Eshoo	Maloney,	Sewell (AL)
Esty	Carolyn	Shea-Porter
Farr	Maloney, Sean	Sherman
Fattah	Matsui	Sinema
Foster	McCarthy (NY)	Sires
Frankel (FL)	McCormack	Slaughter
Fudge	McCollum	Smith (WA)
Gabbard	McDermott	Speier
Gallego	McGovern	Swalwell (CA)
Garamendi	McNerney	Takano
Garcia	Meeks	Thompson (CA)
Grayson	Meng	Thompson (MS)
Green, Al	Michaud	Tierney
Green, Gene	Miller, George	Titus
Grijalva	Moore	Tonko
Gutierrez	Moran	Tsongas
Hahn	Murphy (FL)	Van Hollen
Hanabusa	Nadler	Vargas
Hastings (FL)	Heck (WA)	Veasey
Heck (WA)	Napolitano	Vela
Higgins	Neal	Velázquez
Himes	Negrete McLeod	Visclosky
Hinojosa	Nolan	Walz
Holt	O'Rourke	Wasserman
Honda	Owens	Schultz
Horsford	Pallone	Waters
Hoyer	Pascrell	Watt
Huffman	Pastor (AZ)	Waxman
Israel	Payne	Welch
Jackson Lee	Pelosi	Wilson (FL)
Jeffries	Perlmutter	Yarmuth
Johnson (GA)	Peters (CA)	

NAYS—230

Aderholt	Crenshaw	Harper
Alexander	Culberson	Harris
Amash	Daines	Hartzler
Amodei	Davis, Rodney	Hastings (WA)
Bachmann	Denham	Heck (NV)
Bachus	Dent	Hensarling
Barletta	DeSantis	Herrera Beutler
Barr	DesJarlais	Holding
Barton	Diaz-Balart	Hudson
Benishek	Duncan (SC)	Huelskamp
Bentivolio	Duncan (TN)	Huizenga (MI)
Bilirakis	Ellmers	Hultgren
Bishop (UT)	Farenthold	Hunter
Black	Fincher	Hurt
Blackburn	Fitzpatrick	Issa
Bonner	Fleischmann	Jenkins
Boustany	Fleming	Johnson (OH)
Brady (TX)	Flores	Jones
Bridenstine	Forbes	Jordan
Brooks (AL)	Fortenberry	Joyce
Brooks (IN)	Fox	Kelly (PA)
Broun (GA)	Franks (AZ)	King (IA)
Buchanan	Frelinghuysen	King (NY)
Bucshon	Gardner	Kingston
Burgess	Garrett	Kinzinger (IL)
Calvert	Gerlach	Kline
Camp	Gibbs	LaMalfa
Cantor	Gibson	Lamborn
Capito	Gingrey (GA)	Lance
Carter	Gohmert	Lankford
Cassidy	Goodlatte	Latham
Chabot	Gosar	Latta
Chaffetz	Gowdy	Lipinski
Coble	Granger	LoBiondo
Coffman	Graves (GA)	Long
Collins (GA)	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Collins (NY)	Griffin (AR)	Luetkemeyer
Conaway	Griffith (VA)	Lummis
Cook	Grimm	Marchant
Cotton	Guthrie	Marino
Cramer	Hall	Massie
Crawford	Hanna	Matheson

McCarthy (CA)	Price (GA)	Smith (NE)	Cook	Jordan	Rice (SC)	Larson (CT)	Nolan	Scott, David
McCaul	Radel	Smith (NJ)	Cotton	Joyce	Rigell	Lee (CA)	O'Rourke	Serrano
McClintock	Rahall	Smith (TX)	Cramer	Kelly (PA)	Roby	Levin	Owens	Sewell (AL)
McHenry	Reed	Southerland	Crawford	King (IA)	Roe (TN)	Lipinski	Pallone	Shea-Porter
McKeon	Reichert	Stewart	Crenshaw	King (NY)	Rogers (AL)	Loebsock	Pascrell	Sherman
McKinley	Renacci	Stivers	Culberson	Kingston	Rogers (KY)	Lofgren	Pastor (AZ)	Sinema
McMorris	Ribble	Stockman	Daines	Kinzinger (IL)	Rogers (MI)	Lowenthal	Payne	Sires
Rodgers	Rice (SC)	Stutzman	Davis, Rodney	Kline	Rohrabacher	Lowe	Pelosi	Slaughter
Meadows	Rigell	Terry	Denham	LaMalfa	Rokita	Lujan Grisham	Perlmutter	Smith (WA)
Meehan	Roby	Thompson (PA)	Dent	Lamborn	Rooney	(NM)	Peters (CA)	Speier
Messer	Roe (TN)	Thornberry	DeSantis	Lance	Ros-Lehtinen	Lujan, Ben Ray	Peters (MI)	Swalwell (CA)
Mica	Rogers (AL)	Tiberi	DesJarlais	Lankford	Roskam	(NM)	Peterson	Takano
Miller (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Tipton	Diaz-Balart	Latham	Ross	Lynch	Pingree (ME)	Thompson (CA)
Miller (MI)	Rogers (MI)	Turner	Duncan (SC)	Latta	Ross	Maffei	Pocan	Thompson (MS)
Miller, Gary	Rohrabacher	Upton	Duncan (TN)	LoBiondo	Royce	Maloney,	Polis	Tierney
Mullin	Rokita	Valadao	Ellmers	Long	Runyan	Carolyn	Price (NC)	Titus
Mulvaney	Rooney	Walberg	Farenthold	Lucas	Ryan (WI)	Maloney, Sean	Rahall	Rahall
Murphy (PA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Walden	Fincher	Luetkemeyer	Salmon	Matsui	Rangel	Tonko
Neugebauer	Roskam	Walorski	Fitzpatrick	Lummis	Sanford	McCarthy (NY)	Richmond	Tsongas
Noem	Ross	Weber (TX)	Fleischmann	Marchant	Scalise	McCollum	Roybal-Allard	Van Hollen
Nugent	Rothfus	Webster (FL)	Fleming	Marino	Schock	McDermott	Ruiz	Vargas
Nunes	Royce	Westmoreland	Massie	Matheson	Schweikert	McGovern	Ruppersberger	Veasey
Nunnelee	Runyan	Whitfield	Forbes	Matheson	Scott, Austin	McNerney	Rush	Vela
Olson	Ryan (WI)	Williams	Fortenberry	McCarthy (CA)	Sensenbrenner	Meeks	Ryan (OH)	Velázquez
Palazzo	Salmon	Wilson (SC)	Fox	McCaul	Sessions	Meng	Sánchez, Linda	Visclosky
Paulsen	Sanford	Wittman	Franks (AZ)	McClintock	Shimkus	Michaud	T.	Walz
Pearce	Scalise	Wolf	Frelinghuysen	McHenry	Shuster	Miller, George	Sanchez, Loretta	Wasserman
Perry	Schock	Womack	Gardner	McIntyre	Simpson	Moore	Sarbanes	Schultz
Peterson	Schweikert	Woodall	Garrett	McKeon	Smith (NE)	Moran	Schakowsky	Waters
Petri	Scott, Austin	Yoder	Gerlach	McKinley	Smith (NJ)	Murphy (FL)	Schiff	Watt
Pittenger	Sensenbrenner	Yoho	Gibbs	McMorris	Smith (TX)	Nadler	Schneider	Waxman
Pitts	Sessions	Young (AK)	Gibson	Rodgers	Southerland	Napolitano	Schrader	Welch
Poe (TX)	Shimkus	Young (FL)	Gingrey (GA)	Meadows	Stewart	Neal	Schwartz	Wilson (FL)
Pompeo	Shuster	Young (IN)	Gohmert	Meehan	Stivers	Negrete McLeod	Scott (VA)	Yarmuth
Posey	Simpson		Goodlatte	Messer	Stockman			

NOT VOTING—13

Campbell	Engel	McIntyre
Clyburn	Johnson, Sam	Quigley
Cole	Labrador	Wagner
Conyers	Lewis	
Duffy	Markey	

□ 1818

Messrs. BILIRAKIS, TERRY, CRAMER, DESJARLAIS, POSEY, HARPER, LUETKEMEYER, PETERSON, KINGSTON, HARRIS and ROSKAM changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. OWENS, JEFFRIES, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and Messrs. COOPER and THOMPSON of Mississippi changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 229, nays 195, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 154]

YEAS—229

Aderholt	Black	Camp
Alexander	Blackburn	Cantor
Amash	Bonner	Capito
Amodi	Boustany	Carter
Bachmann	Brady (TX)	Cassidy
Bachus	Bridenstine	Chabot
Barletta	Brooks (AL)	Chaffetz
Barr	Brooks (IN)	Coble
Barton	Broun (GA)	Coffman
Benishek	Buchanan	Cole
Bentivolio	Bucshon	Collins (GA)
Bilirakis	Burgess	Collins (NY)
Bishop (UT)	Calvert	Conaway

Gowdy	Miller (FL)	Stutzman
Granger	Miller (MI)	Terry
Graves (GA)	Miller, Gary	Thompson (PA)
Graves (MO)	Mullin	Thornberry
Griffin (AR)	Mulvaney	Tiberi
Griffith (VA)	Murphy (PA)	Tipton
Grimm	Neugebauer	Turner
Guthrie	Noem	Upton
Hall	Nugent	Valadao
Hanna	Nunes	Walberg
Harper	Nunnelee	Walden
Harris	Olson	Walorski
Hartzler	Palazzo	Weber (TX)
Hastings (WA)	Paulsen	Webster (FL)
Heck (NV)	Pearce	Wenstrup
Hensarling	Perry	Westmoreland
Herrera Beutler	Petri	Whitfield
Holding	Pittenger	Williams
Hudson	Pitts	Wilson (SC)
Huelskamp	Poe (TX)	Wittman
Huizenga (MI)	Pompeo	Wolf
Hultgren	Posey	Womack
Hunter	Price (GA)	Woodall
Hurt	Radel	Yoder
Issa	Reed	Yoho
Jenkins	Reichert	Young (AK)
Johnson (OH)	Renacci	Young (FL)
Jones	Ribble	Young (IN)

NAYS—195

Andrews	Cooper	Grayson
Barber	Costa	Green, Al
Barrow (GA)	Courtney	Green, Gene
Bass	Crowley	Grijalva
Beatty	Cuellar	Gutierrez
Becerra	Cummings	Hahn
Bera (CA)	Davis (CA)	Hanabusa
Bishop (GA)	Davis, Danny	Hastings (FL)
Bishop (NY)	DeFazio	Heck (WA)
Blumenauer	DeGette	Higgins
Bonamici	Delaney	Himes
Brady (PA)	DeLauro	Hinojosa
Bralley (IA)	DelBene	Holt
Brown (FL)	Deutch	Honda
Brownley (CA)	Dingell	Horsford
Bustos	Doggett	Hoyer
Butterfield	Doyle	Huffman
Capps	Duckworth	Israel
Capuano	Edwards	Jackson Lee
Cárdenas	Ellison	Jeffries
Carney	Engel	Johnson (GA)
Carson (IN)	Enyart	Johnson, E. B.
Cartwright	Eshoo	Kaptur
Castor (FL)	Esty	Keating
Castro (TX)	Farr	Kelly (IL)
Chu	Fattah	Kennedy
Ciilline	Foster	Kildee
Clarke	Frankel (FL)	Kilmer
Clyde	Kind	Kind
Cleaver	Gabbard	Kirkpatrick
Cohen	Gallardo	Kuster
Connolly	Garamendi	Langevin
Conyers	Garcia	Larsen (WA)

NOT VOTING—9

Campbell	Johnson, Sam	Markey
Clyburn	Labrador	Quigley
Duffy	Lewis	Wagner

□ 1826

Mr. GUTIERREZ changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday May 16, 2013, I was in St. Louis, Missouri celebrating children’s graduations. My son, Stephen Wagner today graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, and my daughter, Mary Ruth Wagner, has a Baccalaureate Mass for Ursuline Academy.

Due to these lifetime events, I was unable to be in Washington, DC and vote on the legislative business of the day.

On Ordering the Previous Question for H. Res. 215, a resolution providing for consideration of H.R. 45 to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health-care related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, rollcall Vote No. 150, had I been present I would have voted “yes.”

On Adoption of H. Res. 215, a resolution providing for consideration of H.R. 45 to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, rollcall Vote No. 151, had I been present I would have voted “yes.”

On Approval of the Journal, rollcall Vote No. 152, had I been present I would have voted “yes.”

On Motion to Recommit with Instructions H.R. 45, rollcall Vote No. 153, had I been present I would have voted “no.”

On Passage of H.R. 45 to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, rollcall Vote No. 154, had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 107

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I might remove my name from H.R. 107 as a cosponsor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BACHMANN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO
BRITISH-AMERICAN INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Member on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. CICILLINE, Rhode Island

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE
COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913 and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

Mr. WOLF, Virginia

Mr. PITTINGER, North Carolina

Mr. MEADOWS, North Carolina

HONORING CIPRIANO GARZA

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cipriano Garza, who this Saturday will be joining the ranks of the select few members in the South Dade High School's Alumni Hall of Fame.

Throughout his life, Cip—as he is known—has achieved high levels of personal success and excelled in his profession, making him a great example of the diversity and ingenuity of the south Florida community.

During his senior year at South Dade High, Cip set new State and school records for the 100-yard dash at the State Championships while crossing the finish line barefoot.

As a son of migrant farm workers, Cip has used his unique perspective in working with Dade County Public Schools to create innovative educational programs and eradicate the school dropout rate among children of migrant farm workers.

In 1993, after being appointed a special assistant to the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Cip became the first Mexican-American to receive a Presidential appointment in the State of Florida.

Cip's many accomplishments and dedication to the betterment of the community make him deserving of this great honor.

Congratulations to Cip Garza.

ACA REPEAL

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, today, for the 37th time, the Republicans set a vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Yet again, this is a waste of time and taxpayer resources on pure political posturing, rather than working hard on behalf of hardworking American taxpayers.

As a freshman Member, I can tell you where I stand, and that is in 100 percent pure full support of the Affordable Care Act.

Republicans have ignored real problems affecting our country and instead have chosen to attack the poor and most vulnerable. Millions of Americans are already enjoying protections and benefits under the law. In my State of Texas, over 300,000 young adults are able to stay under their parents' plan. Over 3 million women and 1.8 million senior citizens have access to preventive care. Many more will have insurance coverage once the insurance exchanges are in place for 2014.

Republicans constantly talk about requiring more efficiency and reducing redundancy in Federal Government. How about we start reducing redundancy right here in Congress? Let's move beyond messaging bills and into actual substantive legislation. Let's focus on jobs and grow the economy rather than wasting money on repealing the Affordable Care Act.

SO-CALLED AFFORDABLE CARE
ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Americans want and need greater access to health care, and they deserve reforms that will lower costs and expand access, but without undermining quality and innovation.

These were the promises of the President's health care reform law. They were worthy goals. Unfortunately, they are not reality.

To the contrary, over the past 3 years, families and businesses have seen a 400 percent premium increase for health care. Patients are being denied coverage that physicians will not accept. Employers have slowed hiring under new costs and the fear of what is ahead.

This Congress has rescinded funding for or completely repealed eight separate provisions of ObamaCare. Key provisions of the act are beginning to collapse under the weight of their own irreparable flaws. And even my Demo-

cratic colleagues have warned of the law's looming "train wreck."

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. Full repeal of this flawed policy is the first step to enacting commonsense reforms to actually lower costs and expand access. Only then can we enact a law that can be truly called the "Affordable Care Act."

AUTOMATIC IRA ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about legislation that I have reintroduced—the Automatic IRA Act of 2013.

According to Boston College's Center for Retirement Research, the United States has a retirement income deficit of \$6.6 trillion.

One area I think we need to focus on is getting more low and middle-income workers into retirement savings.

It is estimated that 75 million workers—or half of American workers—have no employer-provided retirement plan or other opportunity to save for workplace contributions. The auto IRA is a commonsense solution to dramatically expand retirement savings in the United States.

Listen to this: this auto IRA proposal was jointly developed by myself, along with the Brookings Institution and the Heritage Foundation. It has garnered widespread support, including from AARP, the U.S. Black Chamber of Commerce, the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement, and the Aspen Institute Initiative on Financial Security.

This is a commonsense piece of legislation that should be joined by both parties in advancing retirement opportunities for the American people.

PROMOTING OUR RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE STATE OF ISRAEL

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to encourage my colleagues to cosponsor legislation I have introduced to ensure that the State of Israel maintains its qualitative military edge.

Israel recently celebrated its 65th anniversary of independence.

Unfortunately, many of Israel's neighbors continue their relentless attacks against this Nation. While Iran pursues its nuclear program, it has launched cyber attacks against Israel.

Israel is under constant danger from both conventional and unconventional weapons. However, the current statutory definition of "qualitative military edge" does not include the threats posed by militia activity or cyber attacks.

These are very real threats against Israel and must be taken into account.