

personal information. We have even witnessed privacy abuses by other government agencies—by the NSA, by the IRS.

The Obama data hub will end privacy as we know it and will grant unprecedented power over citizens to the government.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LAND DAY

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is the 20th anniversary of National Public Land Day. Whoopee.

I am also reading a book about the members of my church trying to live in post-World War II East Germany where all building was restricted. If they wished to have a house in which to worship and it was on government land, the government always owned the building and could possess it at any time. If they actually wished to possess the building, they had to find private land to trade to the government because the official policy of East Germany was “no net loss of federal land.”

I mention that because communist East Germany has the same policy standard as the Department of the Interior and Forest Service have today.

Mr. Speaker, either we are wrong or East Germany was right, and I sincerely doubt the latter is accurate.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, since ObamaCare was first passed, we’ve known that it would cause premiums to rise and increase the cost of health insurance for millions of Americans.

One issue that has not been talked about enough is the serious threat to the access of quality care for patients, especially in the rural parts of the country that I represent. This is a very serious issue in my district, and one of the main reasons that I support defunding this bill.

As we get closer to the October 1 release date of the individual health insurance plans under ObamaCare, the threat of reduced access is quickly becoming the reality. Because of ObamaCare, one of the largest health insurers in Georgia is eliminating 40 percent of their contracts with hospitals and 30 percent of the contracts with doctors in the State and ending all voluntary out-of-State coverage.

For my constituents in rural Georgia, we already face a shortage of care. In small rural communities, working-class patients have a more difficult time accessing the hospital or doctor that they may need.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and the American people to look at the facts and ask: What good is a health in-

surance card when a patient cannot find a doctor or hospital that takes it? That’s one of the reasons that I stand before you in strong support of defunding this destructive law and putting in place commonsense, market-based reforms.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor, as many of us do, to speak about the intrusion into a God-given American freedom called ObamaCare.

As I watched the debate go back and forth and listened to my junior Senator declare those of us who don’t want to fund ObamaCare to be for anarchy, I would say instead it’s this: that if ObamaCare is ever implemented and enforced, we will never recover from it. It is an unconstitutional taking of God-given American liberty.

What we are saying here in the House is we are not going to fund any implementation or enforcement of ObamaCare. If that means that the President would shut the government down in his throwing of a political tantrum, that’s not on us; that’s on him.

We have always recovered from government shutdowns. There were 57 days of government shutdowns under Jimmy Carter. We don’t even remember that.

We will never recover from ObamaCare if it’s implemented, and I’m going to stand in opposition to funding ObamaCare.

□ 1115

OBAMACARE: A BUDGET ISSUE

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

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I serve on the Budget Committee. Yesterday, we had a hearing with the Director of the Congressional Budget Office. That’s the nonpartisan group that does the scoring and that talks about what the impact of the decisions we make here will have on Americans, on taxpayers, on future generations.

We all know that the largest costs we have in the Federal budget are driven by health care. That’s why we are focused so much on bringing health care costs down. In the midst of that, we are developing an entirely new Federal health care benefit in this country, and the Congressional Budget Office, Mr. Speaker, said this: that of all the Federal health care costs that will be paid over the next 10 years, more than half will be brand new costs from ObamaCare.

This is already the biggest expense we have, and we are going to double it. That’s why this is a budget issue. That’s why we are talking about it in the time of funding the government and funding the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will bankrupt us. We must take care of families in our districts. We must address pre-existing conditions. We must cover children—but we must do it in a way that does not bankrupt America.

GET 'ER DONE

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

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, the American people sent us here to govern. Now is the time to govern. In a few short days, the government will shut down unless the House acts.

I oppose ObamaCare, and I oppose shutting down the government. We had a vote in the House. The Senate will soon have a vote. They will, in all likelihood, strip out the “defund ObamaCare” language and send us back a bill.

I believe it is time for us to stop playing political games. I believe it is time for us in a bipartisan manner to vote to fund the government and end this brinksmanship debacle that has been going on for the past few days. I feel very strongly about this. Moreover, the American people expect us to make sure that services are provided. I want to make sure the troops are paid and that the people who are in need of services actually receive them.

There will be more opportunities to debate these issues going forward, particularly as it relates to the debt ceiling, but for now, fund the government, and do it in a bipartisan way.

As they say in Texas, “Get ‘er done.”

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1348. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

OBAMACARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to stand in the greatest deliberative body in the world and in the well of the House of Representatives. It is especially poignant that we are here today as Members of this body, because we are looking at an historic shift in United States history.

Next week, Mr. Speaker, not one American will escape the new rules and regulatory burden of ObamaCare. We are going to face something that’s unprecedented in the history of the country, and we already know what some of those results will be. We have a law that’s absolutely unaffordable. Our

President told us that we had to hurry, hurry, hurry—not even take time to read the bill—because we were going to be saving \$2,500 per American household if we passed this bill.

Mr. President, we are already told that the average increase is about \$3,000 per household—well over a \$5,000 difference from what you promised us. It's unaffordable, Mr. President. Now we also know it's completely unworkable. How do we know that? Because, Mr. President, we already know that you have granted 19 different waivers, blockages, repeals of ObamaCare. Even your administration—Mr. Speaker, we would say to the President—has admitted it's completely unworkable.

And it's unfair.

I think this is what galls the American people more than anything. How do we know it's unfair? Take a look at the leader of one of the largest unions in the United States, one of the advocates for the Unaffordable Care Act, as many have called it. James Hoffa, the head of the Teamsters Union, calls ObamaCare a nightmare, and he has begged and pleaded the President of the United States to back off of ObamaCare because he said, in his words, that it is taking away the American Dream—what unions have worked for, to build up a 40-hour workweek. We are now becoming a part-time Nation so that employers today are looking for employees who will work no more than 29-and-a-half hours a week. That's a 25 percent reduction in hours for the average American worker, let alone the multiple tens of thousands of employees who have already been thrown off of their health insurance. That's unfair.

Finally, it's unpopular.

Never has ObamaCare enjoyed any popularity, and the President of the United States promised his side of the aisle, Don't worry. Just pass it.

In other words, build it, and they will come.

The bill was passed, and today—just literally days before this bill goes into effect—it is more unpopular than ever. If we think it's unpopular now, wait until it's fully implemented. As they say, there is nothing more expensive than something that is supposed to be free, and we are going to find out just how expensive that is.

We are going to enjoy for the next hour comments from people within this body as to what they've heard from the folks back home, what real Americans are saying about how this horrific law is going to impact their lives.

I would like to first yield time to the esteemed colleague from the State of North Carolina, the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX, a leader within this body.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Minnesota for helping to lead this effort today with our other colleague from Tennessee and all of our colleagues who are going to be here today.

I think it's really important that we shed a lot of light on a couple of issues

that are going to be discussed. They were discussed in the 1 minutes this morning, and I want to compliment all of our colleagues who came down to talk about this problem that we are facing with the implementation of this unaffordable, unworkable, unfair, unpopular bill that was passed in an unprecedented way, as you said.

I also think that it's important that we throw light on the issue of what happens if our government is shut down. As our colleague, Congressman DENT from Pennsylvania, was saying, House Republicans want this government to stay open. We have acted to keep the government open. We don't want a government shutdown. We voted a week ago to pass a continuing resolution in advance of the new fiscal year, which lays out how the government will be funded, how the troops will be paid, how the parks will remain open, and how day-to-day government operations will continue. Yes, we oppose this bill, but we want to keep our government running.

The Democrats in the Senate have yet to pass this legislation to protect the American people from a shutdown or from the unfairness of ObamaCare. America is waiting for the Senate. Because the clock is running, the country is nearing the edge of the 18th government shutdown since 1976.

I want to thank our colleague, particularly MICHELE BACHMANN, for calling to our attention the article that ran in *The Washington Post* this week that pointed out the history of government shutdowns. We don't believe in government shutdowns on the Republican side, but contrary to what our colleagues are trying to say and what the President is saying, this is not an issue that has been brought on only by Republicans in the past. Government shutdowns have occurred with Democrats and Republicans in the White House. They have occurred with divided Congresses, with a Congress of one party and a White House of the other. They have even occurred when Democrats have controlled both the Congress and the White House.

We don't want to add another chapter to that history, so we have asked our colleagues in the Senate to do their part. We know that the threat of a shutdown breeds uncertainty and confusion for American families when too many are already concerned about how ObamaCare will be making unwelcome changes to their health care and making health care more expensive, as has been pointed out by several of our colleagues today. So we want the Senate to act, to follow the lead of the House and move the country away from shutdown and away from ObamaCare. By the way, let's point out again that our bill passed with bipartisan support.

The right step to take is to repeal ObamaCare—at the very least to delay ObamaCare—because of the problems that it presents and not shut down the government. That's the message Republicans are bringing. Unfortunately,

it has not been the message that has been out there in the media. I am thankful, again, to my colleagues for being here today and leading this Special Order to make sure that, at least here, we can get that message out.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you to Congresswoman FOXX.

Thank you for your leadership in this area.

It's wonderful, I think, to hear from women, and one woman in particular is the gentlelady from Tennessee, MARSHA BLACKBURN, who has let our Conference know absolutely clearly that 80 percent of all health care decisions in this country are made by women, so women, in particular, are impacted by this decision because they are at the front line of understanding how unaffordable the President's new health care plan is, how unfair it's going to be to themselves, to their families, to their parents that they often care for, how unworkable it is, and how they want to see a positive solution.

We are not here just to beat up. We are here to make sure that we have a positive solution for American families, and it is women whom we are very concerned about today.

So, with that, I would like to yield to the gentlelady from Tennessee, Mrs. MARSHA BLACKBURN.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Thank you so much, and I thank the gentlelady for her attention on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I think each of us wants to thank the leadership for allowing us to have time on the House floor and talk directly to the American people in order to be certain that they know exactly what is in this unaffordable act. We have talked a lot about why we want to delay it and defund it and repeal it and replace it, and the importance of that.

As the gentlelady from Minnesota mentioned, one of the problems that we hear from women is—guess what?—the cost of insurance is going up. The President had said it's going to save you \$2,500, and we are hearing now that it is going to be going up between \$3,000 and \$7,500 per family per year for the cost of insurance. When you look at the cost of these exchanges, they're not saving money; it's costing them more.

We are hearing reports of how out-of-pocket expenses are expected to escalate. It may be \$5,000 or \$6,000 per family. The costs are escalating in what families are going to be using to pay for health care, and because of that, they are looking at us and are saying you have to get the costs down.

There is the impact of ObamaCare on jobs, on the 40-hour workweek, which has been such a cornerstone of the American Dream, such a cornerstone for hardworking families to be able to support their families, to have their children dream big dreams, to educate those children, and to send them forward in the world to do their part in adding to the greatness of America. That is being attacked by this legislation.

It is, indeed, a law that the American people do not want because they can't afford it.

Go back, and remember where we started with this—and this is one thing I hear from women regularly. I had a constituent ask me recently, and it reminded me.

She said, What was the purpose of ObamaCare?

Supposedly, when all of this great debate started, it was to find a pathway for somewhere between 30 and 45 million Americans who did not have access to health insurance to have health insurance. What it has become is a Federalizing and a nationalizing of 17 percent of the U.S. economy. It is turning health care on its head.

In order to pay for it—Mr. WOODALL mentioned the hearing that we had in the Budget Committee yesterday—they have taken money out of Medicare, which is money that our seniors have earned. They've earned that money. They have put it into the Medicare trust fund. ObamaCare pulls it out and puts it over here in the ObamaCare pot—\$600 billion worth. That money was to be there for seniors, for hard-working taxpayers. This administration picks it up, and they move it over.

They are implementing 20 new taxes. Insurance policies, home sales, equity—you name it—medical devices are all subject to a tax. Why? They've got to find a way to pay for this expensive program that no one can afford. All the while, we continue to stay near 8 percent in unemployment. We have millions of Americans—23 million Americans—who are either unemployed or underemployed, and the Federal Government is seeking to take more of their paychecks.

□ 1130

This is one of the reasons that about 130 of our colleagues, including the gentlelady from Minnesota, have joined me on H.R. 2809, which is the legislation that is the 1-year delay of all things ObamaCare—all the taxes, the fees, the penalties, the Medicaid expansion that our States don't want, the exchanges that are not ready to open. Indeed, on the front page of *The Wall Street Journal*, there was another article about another glitch in these exchanges. It's not ready for prime time. The smart thing to do is delay it so that we can defund, repeal it, and replace it.

At our Republican Study Committee, we have introduced great replacement language, the American Health Care Reform Act. I know that others who are waiting to speak are going to talk about this act and the ideas we have to give individuals and patients and moms and dads more control over their health care. That's what we want, individuals able to make their own decisions, not a bunch of bureaucrats sitting in a building down on Independence Avenue in Washington, D.C.

We do not trust those decisions to nameless, faceless, unknown, unac-

countable bureaucrats. Those decisions should be made by patients and doctors. That is what we are fighting for. We are fighting for the future of this Nation. We are fighting to make certain that our children know the America that we have known: the America that is robust and accepting and is welcoming to those that want to dream big dreams, welcoming to our children's ideas and concepts to build companies, to innovate, to create jobs. That is what we come to the floor to fight for. We know an important component of that is to prevent the establishment of this program that is going to be difficult to get off the books.

Ronald Reagan told us regularly that "there is nothing so close to eternal life on Earth as a Federal Government program." If we have to stand here day and night in order to stop this program, let's stop it.

We continue to invite the President with open hands. We invite him to come and meet with us and work with us. We're willing to work with you. Let's delay this. Let's do things right. Let's not force on the American people, force on top of them a program they have repeatedly said, We do not want it; we do not like it; we want it repealed; we want it replaced.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I want to say thank you to the gentlewoman from Tennessee for all her passion and vigor and also for the wonderful piece of legislation because I think it's a good compromise at this point on ObamaCare. And if the truth be told, I think a lot of Democrats secretly hope that the gentlelady's bill passes because they know this is unworkable.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Will the gentlelady yield?

Mrs. BACHMANN. Yes, I will yield to the gentlewoman from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I think we were all encouraged when we had bipartisan agreement and support for delaying both the employer and the individual mandate, a vote that we took a month earlier this year, and we were encouraged with that.

That's such an interesting thing. There has never been Republican support for this law or the 20,000 pages of regulation that is springing up out of this law because it is costing us jobs, it's costing us money, and it's causing our hospitals to close. And we do have bipartisan agreement that the law is not ready for prime time.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentlelady.

That's exactly right. That's why I say that I think if the truth be told, a lot of Democrats are secretly hoping that we can get this 1-year delay. That's the minimum compromise that we're looking at, defunding and delaying for at least 1 year. We want to save the American people from the economic misery that's just around the corner.

I yield to the gentleman from the State of Florida, Florida's Third Congressional District, Mr. TED YOHO.

Mr. YOHO. I thank my colleague, the gentlelady from Minnesota, my home State, for putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, when I was a lot younger, I remember watching President Reagan in the debates with Jimmy Carter. President Reagan once said, Now, Jimmy, there you go again. Here we are today, another day, another delay by the administration, another example of why the Affordable Care Act, or as the President likes to talk about ObamaCare, is not ready for prime time.

Mr. Speaker, if fully implemented, this law was predicted to and is crippling our economy; businesses would cut hours, and they are; employees would lose benefits, and they are; and families would be forced into government-run health care exchanges. It was said by the President that if you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan. Well, tell that to my constituents who are being told by their insurance companies that due to the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, their current plans will not exist in 2014. Just yesterday, we had a Member of this Congress who said that his private plan, which he paid for by himself, was canceled within the last month. I don't believe he feels that he can keep his same insurance nowadays.

With all these delays, even supporters of ObamaCare know and now realize that this law should have been read before it was passed. If we go back to that infamous day, when the then-Speaker at the time said: We have to read it to see what's in it. We have to read it to see how it's going to work—well, that day is here and we see what's in it, and we see how it's not going to work.

Understand, America, that the people that our government has to sign people up on this, they're unskilled in the insurance industry, they're unlicensed, they don't have insurance to cover errors and omissions, they're unbonded; and we are going to give them our private information. I want you to think about that as this law changes and goes into effect.

With your help, we can change it. We changed the dynamics in this Congress on the intervention in Syria. The American people stood up and your Representatives listened to that. We can do it again if you're willing to do that same kind of commitment. We need to get rid of this law, and it's now time for our colleagues in the Senate to act. They need to act in the best interest of America and not for preserving a legacy.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Florida.

I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. SCOTT GARRETT. He is another tireless stalwart that, during the time when we were trying to fight, said, This is what's going to happen, is exactly what we're about to see transpire before our face. Mr. SCOTT GARRETT from New Jersey's District Five

made it abundantly clear exactly what was going to happen, in terms of the unpopularity, the unfairness, how unaffordable it's going to be and how unworkable.

Mr. GARRETT. I thank the gentleman.

I guess I will be speaking for a minute or two on the issue of unworkability of what's before us right now.

Mr. Speaker, I have to remind all of us here that for years now Republicans have come to this floor with one main point when it comes to health care: that it is our goal, it is our desire, it is our effort to make sure that Americans can have affordable health care coverage and health care delivery in this country. To that end—I'm not going to go into all the details now—in this House, Republicans have offered numerous pieces of legislation that would help facilitate that, help Americans be able to get health insurance that they're able to afford, that would provide them and their families the type and quality of health insurance that they need.

We passed bills like that, and we sent those bills over to the Senate where, as I always say, the Senate is where all good bills go to die. Those bills never became law. What, of course, did become law is the Affordable Health Care Act, also known as ObamaCare.

I'll speak in just a moment on the issue of its unworkability when it comes to the issue of the data hub. It's not really talked about much, but it is a crucial element if ObamaCare is going to go forward, and it is also one that affects every American's life and their privacy, whether you're in an exchange or not.

Why is that? Because ObamaCare is creating a data hub on every American. It will look at and collect and gather together in one place all of your personal information, all of your personal health information, all of your personal financial information. It will be a central location, if you will, for every American's private and sensitive information that will be right here in Washington, D.C., for the bureaucrats and whoever else may be able to get to it.

Can Americans really trust this system that has key information about your income, about your Social Security number, about your email addresses, about your family, about your family's size, about your medical records, about what you said, how you checked boxes off at the doctor's, your veteran status? The list goes on and on. The answer is an emphatic "no." With the ObamaCare data hub, Americans' personal information will be shared with a myriad of distinct Federal agencies, whether it's over at the Department of Justice, over at Social Security with all of your Social Security information, the Department of Homeland Security, and also with your veteran information down the street at the IRS. We know how secure they are. It will be over at the Treasury Department with all their information; Health and

Human Services with your medical information. It's all going to be sent, come October 1, right here to Washington, D.C., and collected through this central data hub.

As I said, we have already witnessed many security breaches over the years with numerous government agencies, and the potential now is even greater. It's magnified with abuse, and it's staggering. We know in addition, besides the abuses by the people themselves who are going to be operating it is a problem—just look at NSA—but we also know the system will attract outside identity thieves and hackers; and it is clear that the system really doesn't do an adequate job in that regard. The system has not been fully tested for a security system, so therefore, how can it protect Americans' personal records?

To that end, let me just bring up here a little bit of information. A little bit ago, Kay Daly—she is with the Health and Human Services Department—an assistant inspector general, told lawmakers at a House hearing that the system security plan and risk assessment filed way back on July 16 was not made available to the inspector general and to her office, which is for a system that is supposed to be opening up in just a few days.

Former Social Security Administration Commissioner Michael Astrue noted that the review was done back in July and the AG audit was due on August 2. He said:

There must have been a draft at that point.

He also observed the hub's development, until he left office, and testified during that same hearing:

I am just not used to the idea that an inspector general comes in and asks an agency for a thing, and they're told no.

Well, that is the situation here, and that is why many of us have real questions about the security and the testing of it.

Look, we have witnessed privacy abuses by a myriad of government agencies—by the NSA, by the IRS. The list goes on. That same agency that targeted various groups—conservative groups, Christian groups, pro-Israel groups—they will now be the same ones greatly involved in administering this data hub. This ObamaCare data hub will end privacy in this country as we know it, and it will grant unprecedented power over all U.S. citizens by the government and bureaucrats right here in Washington.

The Obama administration has said that they are delaying the employers' responsibility provision of ObamaCare, which is the right and responsible thing to do. They should delay every part of ObamaCare because it is abundantly clear that the responsible thing to do is to stop and delay ObamaCare entirely and stop, most importantly, this unprecedented intrusion into every American's private life.

□ 1145

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. SCOTT

GARRETT. He has given a brilliant case on why ObamaCare enjoys a 57 percent disapproval rate by the American people.

The privacy security breach is one that I think we can't underscore enough. People have been very nervous about disclosures that have come out about our government. They are worried about surveillance. What we would say is, Baby, you ain't seen nothing yet, because we are about to see the largest Federal data hub get underway.

Because what will this contain? Not only every single American's most sensitive, private health information about whether or not you've gone to see a psychiatrist or a counselor or what's happened between you and your doctor—we don't know yet if even chart notes will be a part of this Federal data hub that the doctor writes down about what you told them during the private doctor-patient visit.

We know that somehow this will have to be connected to data that is connected with your employment history—where you've worked, for how long, how much money you make, whether you are full-time, whether you are part-time. This will also somehow have to be connected to your tax returns, your most personal private information that no one is supposed to have access to.

All of that will have to come together, together with your family relationships. If you're married, if you're not married, who it is that's considered a dependent. We have never before seen, in the history of the United States, a conflagration and a centralizing of all of this personal data in one hub.

And how can we, the American people, have any level of assurance that this data will be secured? In my own home State of Minnesota, just in the last several weeks, we had a State Federal employee working in the new ObamaCare health care exchanges hit a button, and just like that, 1,600 Minnesotans' private information, including their Social Security numbers, was sent out in a terrible, flagrant security breach. Not only that, we've found out that the information, when it was sent from the government health insurance site, wasn't even encrypted. It was unsecured. It was on an old-fashioned Excel spreadsheet.

And in my home State of Minnesota, we were, early on, jumping on the bandwagon of supporting ObamaCare. So my State has been fully onboard, working to implement this as one of the earliest States, and this is the lack of security for privacy breaches that we see even in my home State.

That's why we are pleading with the President of the United States: Have mercy. Have feeling for people across America who don't want their security breached, because once it's done, it can't be undone. Once your Social Security number is out there, what do you do? Once people know what your income is, what some of your health

problems have been, what some of your family members' health issues have been, how do you reel that back in? As they say in courtrooms, how do you unring a bell? That's all we are trying to say today, those of us that are on the floor, Republicans. Before it's too late, please, look at these problems that have already happened, Mr. President.

You say you won't negotiate with us? You will negotiate with the President of Iran, who is flagrantly producing a nuclear bomb to use against our ally Israel and against us? You will negotiate with the former head of the KGB and the Soviet Union with the Communist Party, Putin, and you won't negotiate with us?

We are here. It's Friday. It ain't quitting time. We want to talk to you, Mr. President. We are here.

And with that, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Montana, STEVE DAINES, who is a fabulous new Member of Congress, who has been working tirelessly on behalf of the citizens of Montana to render to them an affordable, popular, fair health insurance system.

With that, I yield to the gentleman who is the at-large Representative of Montana.

Mr. DAINES. I want to thank the gentlelady from Minnesota.

In fact, my family roots in Montana began in Minnesota. My great-great-grandmother was in Minnesota. She came from Norway and then pushed westward. I think she heard the skiing was a little better out in Montana and continued westward and homesteaded out there as a widow with seven children, just north of Great Falls, Montana.

Well, every day it seems we hear about yet another aspect of ObamaCare that is getting delayed or exempted or ignored. Two months ago, it was the employer mandate. A few weeks later, it was announced that the administration had delayed a significant consumer protection in the law that limits how much people may have to spend on their own health care.

A Washington Post headline from Monday read, "One week away, ObamaCare's small business insurance exchanges not all ready for launch." And a recent POLITICO story summarizes perfectly what a disaster ObamaCare has become:

The ObamaCare that consumers will finally be able to sign up for next week is a long way from the health plan President Barack Obama first pitched to the Nation.

Millions of low-income Americans won't receive coverage. Many workers at small businesses won't get a choice of insurance plans right away. Large employers won't need to provide insurance for another year. Far more States than expected won't run their own insurance marketplaces. And a growing number of workers won't get to keep their employer-provided coverage.

With key parts of the President's health care overhaul set to start on October 1, one thing is certain to supporters and opponents alike:

ObamaCare is not ready for prime time. Rather than fulfilling the President's promise of, "If you like your coverage, you can keep it," ObamaCare has become a tangled web of broken promises, backroom deals, with no relief for American families and hard-working taxpayers in sight.

This is no more apparent than with the Office of Personnel Management's decision to grant Members of Congress and their staff with a special exemption from a provision in ObamaCare. This decision demonstrates how deeply broken Washington is, and it unmistakably suggests that Congress is focused more on their self-interests than the interests of the American people.

That's why I've signed on to the No Special Deal for D.C. Insiders Act and the James Madison Congressional Accountability Act, both of which would reverse the OPM rule. It's absolutely unacceptable for Washington to impose new burdens and costs upon the American people and then carve out special loopholes for itself.

Until this failed law is fully repealed, Washington must live by the same rules that have been forced upon the American people. This train wreck of a law will raise health care costs, force businesses to close their doors, and hurt Montana's access to quality health care.

In fact, ObamaCare could increase underlying insurance rates by up to 158 percent for the average 27-year-old Montanan and 149 percent for 40-year-old Montanans, according to a recent analysis by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. And in August, the KULR-8 news station in Billings, Montana, reported that, according to a Montana health expert:

It's entirely possible that there will be businesses that go out of business solely because of this law.

I was in Missoula, Montana, this summer, meeting with local business owners who are concerned about how ObamaCare will affect not only their businesses but their employees' benefits and access to affordable care. "We don't know what to do," Opportunities' Carrie Purdy told me. She shared how her employees are at risk of having their health benefits decrease and premiums increase next year, as Opportunities' own projections show an \$800,000 increase in insurance costs for 2014 alone. Unsurprisingly, a recent poll shows that two-thirds of Montanans believe that the President's health care law should either be delayed or stopped altogether.

I was elected to represent the people, the people of Montana. Two-thirds of Montanans say the law should either be delayed or stopped altogether. And that is why I am on the floor here today, because this is the House of the people. We're the voice of the people, and we are standing up against the President's law.

As Montana's sole Member in the House of Representatives, it is my job to ensure the Montana voice is heard,

and Montanans are speaking loud and clear. Mr. President, why don't we allow individuals to opt out for the first year? You cut a deal with businesses to push the mandate out for a year. Let the American people opt out, if they so choose, for their first year. If they like their health care coverage today, let them keep it, as you promised would be the case when you pushed for this law a few years ago.

ObamaCare is deeply flawed. It's a law that hurts Montana, and it must be stopped. And I will continue fighting to repeal it, delay it, take it apart piece by piece so that Montanans never have to face the full consequences of the President's failed health care overhaul.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Montana.

We also have ROGER WILLIAMS from Texas' 25th Congressional District.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, pressure is mounting on President Obama and HARRY REID to get rid of ObamaCare. Even Senate Democrats, like JOE MANCHIN, are starting to listen to the people who sent them to Congress. Americans don't want the law, Texans don't want the law, and my district doesn't want the law. And it's easy to see why.

This week, a report by the Manhattan Institute revealed that the President was lying when he said Americans will see a \$2,500 decrease in their premiums. The average health care premium in 2013 for a 27-year-old male was \$91. Under ObamaCare, it's \$139, a 53 percent increase. That's really frightening. This study shows that at least 12 States will see an approximate 100 percent increase in their premiums, many of those far exceeding 100 percent.

Mr. Speaker, this is one of the worst pieces of legislation in my lifetime. It hurts families, it cripples businesses, and it does very little to insure those who are uninsured. We can do better.

The President's so-called signature piece of legislation is crumbling, and it's time for a permanent repeal, for today, tomorrow, and for all generations to follow. In God we trust.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Texas' 25th District, Mr. WILLIAMS.

We have, also, Mr. ROTHFUS from Pennsylvania's 12th. Mr. ROTHFUS, thank you for joining us today.

Mr. ROTHFUS. I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota for yielding and organizing this important discussion.

I have been hearing a lot from the folks back home. Robert from the North Hills of Pittsburgh wrote to us:

When Congress debated the health care law under original objective of health care reform, we thought that meant control and reduction of health care costs. We were wrong.

Stephanie from the North Hills said:

Add us to the statistics of those who can't keep our insurance plans or doctors. Our family is being kicked off our health care plan and is being forced into the exchanges.

Mark from Somerset County said:

Defunding ObamaCare is a great first step. But the next step is total repeal, and I urge

you to work toward that goal at every opportunity.

His premiums are going up 43 percent.

Francis from Beaver County:

My hours were reduced to 29 per week. And now I've been informed by my employer that I can't participate in the corporate health insurance plan because ObamaCare prohibits it.

Paul from Cambria County works in an auto parts store. His annual costs are going up 16 percent.

These problems weren't supposed to happen. The President guaranteed that if you like your health care plan, you can keep it. You know, when you buy a product with a guarantee that doesn't work, you take it back to the store and you get a refund.

The good news is there's a new product that we can shop for. Last week, we introduced the American Health Care Reform Act. It's the new product. This proposal would lower health care costs by allowing Americans to purchase coverage across State lines and enabling small businesses to pool together to increase their buying power. It provides tax fairness for people who purchase their own insurance and provides the same tax benefit as those who get insurance through their employer. It provides tax credits for people who purchase their own insurance.

And, importantly, and if there's one thing that you have to remember, unlike ObamaCare, which penalizes you with taxes, it gives you a tax benefit. You are rewarded if you buy insurance, not penalized.

Also, importantly, the American Health Care Reform Act provides significant funding for State-based high-risk pools, a place where individuals with preexisting conditions can obtain health coverage when doing so would otherwise have been unaffordable. And it does so without increasing costs on those who currently have insurance.

It is time for a new beginning. It's time for bipartisan health care reform and for that discussion to begin. It's time to bring Republicans and Democrats together for real solutions.

As President Kennedy once said:

Let's not seek the Republican answer. Let's not seek the Democrat answer. But let's seek the right answer.

We know that ObamaCare is the wrong answer.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman.

We have with us the chairman of the Republican Study Committee, Mr. STEVE SCALISE, from the great State of Louisiana.

Mr. SCALISE. I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota for her leadership on claiming this time but also for all she's done to point out—and I think, Mr. Speaker, as every day goes by, more and more Americans are finding out just how devastating the President's health care law is to their families.

The President likes mocking Republicans who have said we want to stand up and find a better way. We don't

think this law is workable. We've had 41 laws, the President has bragged and mocked, 41 laws to repeal or defund portions of the law.

□ 1200

Mr. Speaker, President Obama himself has actually signed seven of those bills into law. President Obama has recognized his bill is so unworkable that he issued 1,400 waivers to his friends who could find access to the White House.

Then he said, okay, the employer mandate's so bad, I'll give a break to big businesses because it's so unworkable.

Then, just a few weeks ago, President Obama himself, Mr. Speaker, said that he was going to actually go and give a big break to insurance companies. But you know who we haven't given a break to yet? American families.

Hardworking American families deserve the same relief from the President's health care law that he has granted, time and time again, to the privileged few who can get access to the White House. That's not how democracy is supposed to work. That's not how health policy is supposed to work.

This law is so unworkable that the heads of labor unions, including James Hoffa, of all people, have said that this bill, the President's health care law, will be a disaster to middle class working families and will destroy the 40-hour work week that's the foundation of our Nation's economy.

We want to give that same break to him. We want to give that same break to all American families, and that's what this fight all about. It's a fight to ensure that government continues to get funded, while also providing the same relief from the President's health care law that he already has said he wants to give, but just to the chosen few who can get access to the White House.

If it's so good for everybody, it should apply to everybody. But if it's so bad, it shouldn't be Swiss cheese holes that you carve out to exempt your friends; it should be an exemption for all American families. That's what we're fighting.

Again, I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota.

Mrs. BACHMANN. That's a wonderful rendition, and I appreciate the gentleman from Louisiana.

I now yield to Representative LAMALFA from California's First Congressional District.

Mr. LAMALFA. I greatly appreciate the gentlelady from Minnesota for her efforts here and for the great lady she is.

Mr. Speaker, again, here we are, discussing an issue where this has taken away choices from the American people.

Now, as promised, we saw the President himself say, if you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away.

One of my colleagues on this floor yesterday, counter to that, said how he had had his plan canceled as of the end of this year. People all over this country are now starting to get cancellations on their health care insurance plan that they've chosen with their families, around their kitchen table, probably agonized over how they're deciding to afford it, what level of deductible, what kind of coverage they're going to have. And that's being swept away by what really feels, to a lot of people—a lot of my constituents are telling me it feels like a very oppressive plan that's being pushed upon them.

It's really unbelievable in the United States of America that you can be forced into being a part of this system. It blows my mind that the Supreme Court would agree and rule that people should be forced into purchasing something of this personal choice.

We talked a little bit earlier about how people's privacy is going to be so greatly affected by all this information being dumped into a pool, and government bureaucrats are going to be in charge of that. Look at the leaks we've already seen with other people's information being leaked out by the NSA, or things accidentally put on the Internet by who knows all the different agencies involved.

Yet, this is going to manage one-seventh of our economy, and a very important, very personal thing with people's health and their family's health care. I really, really shudder to think—if this measure cannot be slowed down or stopped by the efforts we're doing in the House and in the next few days around here, it's going to be devastating to people's personal choices, to the economy, to their jobs.

Look at the part-time jobs that are being made out of full-time jobs because people have to react. There are true costs to what the Obama health care takeover is going to do to the people of this country, their families, their livelihood.

So that's why we dig in so hard to do this. This isn't politics for us. No, it isn't. It's about doing the right thing for the American people. A document that really was not well-read or well-vetted, done here just about three or four short years ago here, now is coming home to roost, in its ineptness, in its incompleteness and the overall oppression it's causing for Americans who are feeling that they're out of choices.

In my own home area, for example, people had up to approximately 130 different choices of health care plans through 8 to 10 different providers. They will be limited to two in my part of northern California, with maybe 8 to 10 total plans that they can choose from.

And the way this is rolling out right now, you might get only one plan if you're in certain sectors for perhaps a full year. How is this improving anything?

How is this making health care more affordable, more options, more anything?

We've got to repeal this. But, in the meantime, at the very least, we ask our colleagues in the Senate to not strip out the provision we put in place that would allow for a 1-year delay, which is the least we would need, as a country, to see something made better than what it is right now.

Exemptions, one after the other, are being dropped on us. And why do people that work in the public sector want exemptions if this is such a great plan? Pretty soon there'll be nobody left in it except for the taxpayers themselves.

So I thank you for the time. I thank my colleague, Mrs. BACHMANN, for allowing this time here today. And let's do the right thing here the next few days in this Congress.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you, Representative LAMALFA, for all of your hard work on defunding and delaying ObamaCare.

We have next with us Mr. CULBERSON from Texas' Seventh Congressional District, who has been tireless, especially in the area of keeping government fully funded.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I think it's important for the country to know that the House of Representatives has done its job in passing the most important appropriations bills to make sure that our military is fully funded, that our veterans are taken care of, that the essential functions of Homeland Security are taken care of.

In fact, we passed those bills. The Defense bill out of the House on July 24, the Homeland Security bill was passed on June 6, and the Military Construction and Veterans appropriations bill was passed on June 4. We've also passed out of the House the Energy and Water appropriations bill. And the Senate has been sitting on these bills for over 90 days.

Mr. Speaker, the President has very few responsibilities set out in the Constitution. One of those specific responsibilities is Commander-in-Chief. And it's been reported that the President recently said that the troops in the field might not be paid unless the CR was passed.

Well, the Senate has had these bills for over 90 days. And I think it does not—how does that reflect on the Office of the President, for the Commander-in-Chief to say that the troops are not going to be paid, when, in fact, we've already passed the legislation out of the House—and the Senate's been sitting on it for over 90 days—to make sure the troops are paid?

We, in the House of Representatives, the constitutional conservative majority in the House, are keeping our word to the Nation and to our constituents to do everything in our power to defund, repeal, delay, whatever it takes to stop the most destructive piece of legislation ever passed by this Congress.

And I don't think it should be called ObamaCare. It should be called "DemocratCare" because it was done with 100 percent Democrat support. Not a single Republican voted for it because we recognized the damage it would do to the economy and to our magnificent health care system.

The Democrats passed this bill on their own and, all of a sudden, they're discovering, as the asteroid enters the atmosphere, they've got a big problem because it is causing doctors to leave the profession. It's driving up the cost of health insurance premiums. It's raising deductibles. People are losing their health insurance and being dropped into these nonexistent exchanges.

One other problem that I just discovered and that no one is, I think, aware of yet, are nonprofit organizations who have been lifting people out of homelessness or addiction and giving them job skills and training them, and they find local employers that are willing to take these folks and give them a clean slate, a fresh start, and a new job, and it would wipe out any convictions they've had. They wipe out any history they've got of drug addiction.

These nonprofit organizations have suddenly discovered that the employers are pulling up the drawbridge because, all of a sudden, the employer could be faced with—he's got to decide, as an employer, do I have to provide health care coverage for this, essentially, volunteer, this worker who was previously homeless and had no job skills, and I could be fined for every employee in the company.

So the disasters continue to unfold. It's urgent the House of Representatives—we will all, I know—stand together working and doing everything we can to repeal, delay, defund "DemocratCare," using every legislative tool at our disposal.

I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for the time.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I am extremely grateful to Representative CULBERSON. I know his daughter, Caroline, is the most precious part of his life, as our daughter, Caroline, is as well. And as a gentleman from Texas, I know it's his daughter that he's most concerned about with the ill effects of this bill.

I yield now to another great Texan, RANDY WEBER, from the great State of Texas, from the 22nd District of Texas.

Mr. WEBER. I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. Speaker, four facts, one question.

Fact 1: ObamaCare passed the House by the House Democrats, 219 of them. Now, 34 Democrats joined Republicans in opposition. Let us see how many join on funding the government with the upcoming CR.

Fact 2: Republicans are poised to fund everything in the government at the current levels, and are eager to do so.

Fact 3: Polls show that Americans overwhelmingly do not want ObamaCare.

Fact 4: This House of Representatives is the keeper of the purse, as designed

in the Constitution, and it's well within our authority to defund the ill-conceived and very unpopular government takeover of health care.

Only one question, Mr. Speaker: Will those same Democrats that voted for ObamaCare vote with the American people this time, and will the Senate vote with the American people this time?

I'm RANDY WEBER, and that's the way I see it.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank RANDY WEBER from Texas. Texans have stood up on this issue, and they've been fighting from the very beginning.

But there's also another Member, who's a new Member of Congress, Mr. KERRY BENTIVOLIO. KERRY BENTIVOLIO, from Michigan's 11th District, has diligently worked not only to defund ObamaCare but to delay ObamaCare. He ran on that when he ran for office, and he has fulfilled that promise while he's been a Member of Congress.

I yield to the gentleman from Michigan's 11th District, Mr. KERRY BENTIVOLIO.

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota. That's to defund or delay.

Mr. Speaker, the President's health care law is unworkable. Hardworking Americans know it. They're going to see their insurance premiums skyrocket.

Small business owners know it. They're going to have to scale back hiring, and maybe even let people go.

People in the President's own party know it. Even Senator BAUCUS from Montana, a key author of the legislation, called it a train wreck not long ago.

The unions know it. Teamsters' James Hoffa calls it a nightmare because of the jobs and benefits lost. Why?

Because, despite the President saying the law is working the way it's supposed to, we know it's not working at all. That's why House Republicans remain committed to protecting the American people from this unworkable, unfair law.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank Mr. BENTIVOLIO.

I yield now to SCOTT TIPTON from Colorado's Third Congressional District, a fabulous Member of Congress.

Mr. TIPTON. I thank the gentlelady for her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act missed on its primary goal, addressing affordability and accessibility for the American people.

Probably no one said it better than the AFL-CIO just a few weeks ago, saying that the Affordable Care Act will lead to the destruction of the 40-hour work week, and will devastate the health and well-being of their members.

There was a time in America when we worked to be able to get a 40-hour work week. Now, Americans just want to have a 40-hour work week.

We know there is a problem with the health care law when we're seeing

fewer doctors, fewer nurses, fewer hospital beds, but yet we have the room to be able to create more IRS enforcers.

This is legislation that we're reaching out to the administration to be able to work on. To be able to create affordability and accessibility, we must defund and replace this broken piece of legislation on behalf of the American people.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you, Representative TIPTON.

From the Rocky Mountains all the way to the great State of New York, I yield to Mr. TOM REED, a fabulous Member of Congress from New York's 22nd Congressional District.

Mr. REED. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

I came here today on the floor of this Chamber, Mr. Speaker, and I just dropped the Fair CR. And what the Fair CR says is, let's listen to the American people. Let us delay ObamaCare for at least 1 year.

The President has already given business a pass for 1 year. Why is it fair that individuals and hardworking taxpayers have to be subject to this mandate?

Also, what's fair is, why are there special exemptions for Members of Congress and employees and staffers here in Washington, D.C.? You've got 300 million other Americans that have to be subject to this law.

It's just not right. It's just not fair. It's time to keep the government open but do what's right and listen to the American people and take care of this unfair policy that the administration knows needs to stop.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Representative TOM REED has gone to the heart of this problem, which is the lack of fairness in ObamaCare. And speaking to that is Representative TED POE of the great State of Texas. After myself, my mother's favorite Member of Congress is TED POE, our hero.

I yield to the representative from the great State of Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentlewoman, and I thank your mother for being so kind. I appreciate the fact that you're bringing this to the attention of the American public and to Members of Congress again.

The Affordable Care Act, it's not affordable, and it has nothing to do with care. We cannot afford it, and it's the health care of the Nation now turned over to the government.

Are you kidding me?

That's why we are so persistent in trying to change a bad decision by Congress, the Affordable Care Act.

So this morning, I asked people that are on my Facebook to answer this question: How's ObamaCare affecting you and your business?

Share your story with me.

Well, I got a lot of them, and I can't give them all today.

□ 1215

Here's what Stan says:

I lost my job and had to take one with lower pay and no insurance, as a result of ObamaCare.

Carolyn says:

My husband's insurance increased 162 percent.

The gentlelady from Minnesota knows these are real people. These aren't statistics out there in the fruited plain. These aren't theories by the President. These are real people who are affected by the President's signature legacy nightmare law.

Ray says:

My family didn't get a congressional exemption. Can you get me one?

Ray, good point. Members of Congress ought to be under the same laws as everybody else in the country. Everybody ought to be under ObamaCare. And he brings out a good point. I have here 729 exemptions of the over 1,200 that were granted by the President for waivers of ObamaCare. I would have had all 1,200 but the copy machine ran out of paper so I couldn't print them all.

But here are 729 special folks, special treatment, better deal, because they're not under ObamaCare. They get some kind of waiver for implementation of ObamaCare. And Ray is right: it's just not right. It discriminates against everybody else. This great law gets to apply to everybody except some special folks the President gives waivers to—at least 729.

After Ray's comment about a congressional exemption, I can't get you one, Ray. You need to call the President.

Michael says:

I have to postpone my graduation from the University of Houston because I cannot take the courses I need due to having to work to pay for mandatory health insurance.

Tonya says:

My family's insurance premiums have tripled since ObamaCare was signed into law. I'm not sure how much longer I'll be able to keep it.

Tonya's tripled.

Pam says:

The huge chemical company my husband works for has made changes to his benefits package, which include higher deductibles, copays, and loss of some prescription drug benefits, all done in anticipation of this new law. Please help.

URGENT: I want to hear from you. How has #Obamacare affected your family or business? Share your story by commenting on this post & #MakeDclisten

Stan: I lost my job and had to take one with lower pay and no ins.

Carolyn: "My husband's insurance increased 162%."

Ray: "My family didn't get a congressional exemption, can you get me one?"

Michael: "I am having to postpone my graduation from UH because I cannot take the courses I need due to having to work to pay for mandatory health insurance."

Tonya: "My families insurance premiums have tripled since Obamacare was signed into law. I'm not sure how much longer I will be able to keep my insurance."

Pam: "THE HUGE chemical company my husband works for has made changes to his benefits package, which include higher deductibles, copays, and loss of some prescription drug benefits. All done in anticipation of the implementation of the health

care act the Pres and Dems are forcing on us! He works hard, I am a public school teacher, and we want to send our daughter to her dream school upon graduation this year: The University of Texas. More coming out of our pockets for health ins, means less available for college! Please help"

Kristy: "Family business has had a 47% increase in cost to company since Obamacare was passed. Want to provide the same benefits to employees, but the increase amounts to the annual salary of employee. Will have to cut somewhere."

David: "I am a US/Texas citizen, living in Bahrain/residence in Bahrain. My employer provides my insurance in Bahrain. I am told I have to buy a US policy are pay a penalty."

Huckleberry: "I expect my health insurance to double. The provider has extended my renewal date till dec 1st as they are waiting to see what congress is going to do."

Teddy: "My fiancée went from 40-plus hours a week to 27 hrs because her employer said they had to in order to avoid penalties from Obamacare. My sister has been told that her test and some of medicines for her MS will not be covered because Obamacare mandates say she is no longer going to be a 'viable' person at the age of 50."

Linda: "I'm feeling the pain of Obamacare today. My doctor's office told me this morning that my insurance company will no longer cover a procedure for my knee. I will now have to pay \$1,080 out of pocket. Asked if this was a result of Obamacare, she replied in the positive."

24 Hour Fitness, Allied Building Inspectors IUOE Local 211 Welfare Fund, Alpha Omega Home Health, LLC, Andersen Corporation, Bowman Sheet Metal Heating & Air-conditioning, Bricklayers Insurance & Welfare Fund, Bridge, Structural, Ornamental & Reinforcing Ironworkers Local Union No. 60*, Carey Johnson Oil Co, Inc, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany*, Cement Masons' Local No. 502 Welfare Fund, City of Bloomington VEBA Health Savings Plan*, City of Burnsville*, City of Olathe*, Clausen Miller PC.

Crystal Run Village, Inc*, Delta Apparel, Discovery Benefits*, Dr. Trailer Repair, Inc., Employer-Teamsters Local Nos. 175 & 505 Health and Welfare Fund, Entrust, Fabric-Quilt, GC Harvesting, Inc., Glen Curtis, Inc. #2143, Heritage Christian Services, IBEW Local 3 NYC Electrical Division Health & Welfare Fund, Indiana Area UFCW Union Locals and Retail Food Employers' Health and Welfare Plan.

Ingham County, Innovative Driver Services Company, Integrity Data*, Inter-County Hospitalization Plan, Inc., Jakov P. Dulcich & Sons, Jefferson Rehabilitation Center, JLG Harvesting, Inc., Johnson Machine Works, Kent County, Laborers' District Council of Virginia Health and Welfare Trust Fund, Laborers National Health and Welfare Fund, Local 1245 Health Fund, Local 237 Teamsters Suffolk Regional Off-Track Betting Corp. Health and Welfare Trust Fund.

Local 295 Welfare Fund, Local 381 Group Insurance Fund, Local 805 Welfare Fund, Marble Industry Trust Fund, McGregor Schools ISD #4*, MJ Soffe, MO-Kan Teamsters and Welfare Fund, Mounds View Public Schools*, MVP, North State Bank, North States Industries Inc*, Pathways Inc., Pavers and Road Builders District Council Welfare Fund, Phoenix Children's Academy, Roofers Local 8 Insurance & Trust Fund.

San Bernardino IHSS Public Authority, SCC Healthcare Group, LLP, Schenectady ARC*, Schoharie County ARC*, Sieben Polk Law Firm, Sitel, Inc., Southern Graphic Communication Health Fund, Springbrook Standalone HRA*, St. Lawrence NYSARC*, Sunview Vineyards of California, Inc., Tandem Eastern Inc. / Consolidated Transport

Systems, Inc., Taylor Farms, Teamsters Union Local # 35, The Day Care Council/Council of Supervisors and Administrators Welfare Fund.

The Public Authority of San Luis Obispo County, The University Financing Foundation, Inc., The Village of Newark Non-Union Employee Plan*, Theatrical Stage Employees Local One, Tuff Shed, Inc., U.A. Local 13 & Employers Group Insurance Plan*, UFCW & Participating Food Industry Employers Tri-State Health & Welfare Fund, UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund, UFCW Local One Health Care Fund, Ulster Greene ARC*, Westminster-Canterbury of Lynchburg, Wine and Liquor Salesmen of NJ, A-1 Transport, AIDS Council of Northeastern New York, Avon Central School District.

Azeros Health Plans, Inc.*, Benton County*, Bessey Tools, Inc., Canandaigua City Schools*, City of Eagan*, City of Shakopee Post-Employment Health Care Savings Account Plan *, Community Work and Independence Inc., Continuing Developmental Services, Crystal Cabinet Works, Inc., CU*Answers, Inc., Euromarket Designs, Inc., d/b/a Crate and Barrel, First National Bank of Dieterich, Franziska Racker Centers*, Fridley Public Schools Health Savings Plan*, FSA/SUNYAB-Campus Dining and Shops, Genesee County ARC*.

Genesee County Economic Development Corp Health Reimbursement Account*, Grand Island Central School District*, Hammondsport Central School District, Imperial Wholesale, Inc., Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York, Minnesota State Retirement System Post-Employment, Health Care Savings Plan—City of Roseville*, Naples Central School District, Naples Central School District Support Staff, Newark Central School District, Niagara-Wheatfield CSD Self Funded, Panama Central School District, People 1st Health Strategies, Inc., Pipe Fitters' Welfare Fund, Local 597*, Ron Clark Construction Health Reimbursement Arrangement*.

Sherman Central School District, Silver Creek Central School District*, Sodus Central School District, Telco Construction, Town of Albion, Town of Chenango, Town of Lockport, Twin City Die Casting*, Western Area Volunteer Emergency Services*, Westfield Academy*, Williamson Central School District, American Radio Association Plan, Carpenters Health and Security Trust of Western Washington, Communicare Health Benefits Trust, District Council 1707 Local 389 Home Care Employees Health & Welfare Fund.

Health and Welfare Plan of the Laundry, Dry Cleaning Workers & Allied Industry Health Fund, Workers United, Northern Illinois and Iowa Laborers Health and Welfare Fund, Prell Services, United Food and Commercial Workers Retail Employees and Employers Health and Welfare Plan, A-1 Realty*, AABR*, ABCO Diecasters*, Alfred P. Sloan*, Alizio & Galfunt*, All American Heating and AC*, Allied Pilots Association, Amherst Central School District*, AristaCare at Meadow Springs*, Arthur Sanderson & Sons*, Associated General Contractors of ND Employees*, Autistic Service, Inc.*

Bartech Group, Basf Fuel Cell, Inc.*, Battery Park City Authority*, Battery Park City Conservancy*, Benefit Analysis Inc.*, Blaze SSI*, Blue Beacon, Board of Trustees for the Operating Engineers Local 101, Health and Welfare Fund, Business Wire*, Cargo Ventures*, Carnegie Corporation of NY*, Carpenters Local No. 491 Health & Welfare Plan, Central Laborers' Welfare Fund, Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Health and Welfare Fund, City of Cottage Grove*, City of Inver Grove Heights*, City Of Roseville MN*.

Clinton Management*, Cloquet Area Fire Department*, Cohen Partners*, Community Bank of Bergen County*, Community Mainstreaming*, Contract Cleaners Service Employees Benefit Trust, Cornerstone Search Group*, D & D Ag Supply and Construction, Inc.*, Dial Senior Management, Inc., Douglaston Development*, Dr. Margaret Andrin, MD FACOG LLC*, Dynasil Corporation*, Echo Molding*, Eighth District Electrical Benefit Fund, Electrical Workers Health and Welfare Fund, Enterprise Concrete Products, LLC Texas.

Epilepsy Foundation*, Epilepsy Foundation Northeastern New York*, Evans Chemetics*, Excellus Health Plan, Fairport Central School District*, Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, Gregory Packaging*, Gulf Coast Health Care, Handcraft Manufacturing Corporation*, Haver Analytics Health Waiver*, Health Care Employees Dental and Medical Trust, Hiawatha Medical, Inc.*, Highfield Gardens Care Center*, Hirsch International*, Hotel, Restaurant & Bar Employees Health and Welfare Fund.

Hypex Inc.*, IBEW Local Union No. 126 Health and Welfare Fund, International Union of Operating Engineers, Supplemental Benefit Fund Local 409*, Interstate Connecting Components*, Jacobson Family Investments*, J-B Wholesale Pet Supplies*, JKL International*, Jump, Scutellaro, and Co., LLP*, KC International dba Ekman Recycling*, Kerwin Communications*, Kingstown Capital Management*, Koelman Gear Corporation*, Kramer Electronics*, Lakeview Subacute Care Center*, Langan Engineering and Financial Services, Inc.*, LBDD*, League of Minnesota Cities*, Leisure Properties LLC d/b/a Crownline Boats*.

Liberty House Nursing Home*, Lifetime Assistance, Inc*, Lincoln Hall*, Local 888 UFCW, Maharishi University of Management, Mamiya America Corporation*, Mandt Reiss & Associates PLLC, Margaret P. Muscarelle Child Dev. Center*, Merrill Farms LLC, Micelli Motors, Inc.*, Midwest Asphalt Corporation*, Midwest Teamsters, Monroe County*, Nassau County Chapter, NYSARC, Inc*, NCHC, Inc*, New York State Assn. for Retarded Children Erie Co.

Chapter dba/Heritage Centers*, NJ Society of CPAs*, North Greece Fire District*, Northern Minnesota-Wisconsin Area Retail Food Health & Welfare Fund, Ogontz Avenue Revitalization Corporation*, Parkview Care and Rehab*, PCB Machining Solutions*, PCB Piezotronics*, Philadelphia Macaroni Company*, Phoenix Partners Group, LP*, Privilege Underwriters, Inc.*, Progressive AE*, Quadrant Capital Advisors, Inc.*, Regency Management Group, LLC*, Rhoads Industries*, Roofers Local #96 Health & Welfare Fund.

Rowe and Company, Inc.*, Rush-Henrietta Central School District HRA*, Security Benefit Fund of the Uniformed Firefighters Association of New York City, SEIU Health and Welfare Fund, 2000 Seneca Cayuga ARC*, Service Employees 32BJ North Health Benefit Fund*, Sierra Video Systems*, SMEG*, Strategic Industries*, Superior Officers Council Health and Welfare Fund, Teamsters Local Union 966 Health Fund, Techno Source USA*, The Alternative Living Group, Inc.*, The Arc of Otsego (Otsego County Chapter NYSARC, Inc.)*, The Arc of Rensselaer County*, The City of Cloquet*, The Henry Luce Foundation*, The Maritime Aquarium of Norwalk, Inc.*

The Pew Charitable Trusts*, The Rehabilitation Center*, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*, Topco*, Totino Grace High School*, Urstadt Biddle Properties*, W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc.*, Walder, Hayden & Brogan, PA*, Walters-Morgan Construction, Inc., Wellspring Advisors*, West Bergen Mental Healthcare*, Westchester ARC*, West-

chester JCS*, Western Beef*, Hollow Metal Trust Fund, Theatrical Teamsters Local 817 IBT Welfare Fund.

Vestal Manufacturing Enterprises, Inc., AccessAbility, Inc., Ackerman Oil Employee Benefit Trust, Albany County Chapter, NYSARC Inc., DBA New Visions of Albany*, American Eagle Outfitters, Basin Disposal, Bengard Ranch, Inc., Bestway Rental, Inc., Big Lots, Inc., Byrd Harvest, Inc., Cardinal Hayes Home for Children HRA Plan*, CDS Administrative Services, LLC, Center for Energy and Environment*, City of Brooklyn Park*, D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California, Defender Services, Inc., DineEquity, Inc.

Green Leaf Distributors, Inc., IBEW Local Union No. 728 Family Healthcare Plan, Joseph Gallo Farms, Life Benefit Plan, Luther Automotive Group HRA*, Metrics Inc., Nueces County Appraisal District, Ocean Properties Ltd, P-R Farms, Inc., SEIU Health & Welfare Fund, Sports Arena Employees' Local 137 Welfare Fund, Staywell Saipan Basic Plan, Truck Drivers and Helpers Local 355 Health and Welfare Fund, Communications Workers of America, Local 1180 Security Benefits Fund, Health and Welfare Fund of the Detectives' Endowment Association, Inc. Police Department City of New York.

Man-U Service Contract Health and Welfare Fund, Paschall Truck Lines, Inc., SEIU Local 300, Civil Service Forum Employees Welfare Fund, Electrical Welfare Trust Fund, Highmark West Virginia Inc. d/b/a Mountain State Blue Cross Blue Shield, Advocacy and Resource Center*, Amalgamated, Industrial and Toy & Novelty Workers of America, Local 223 Sick Benefit Fund, Atlanta Plumbers & Steamfitters Fringe Benefit Funds.

Aurora Consulting Group, Inc.*, Brock Enterprises, Inc., Central Texas Health and Benefit Trust Fund Locals 520, 60 & 72, Electricians Health, Welfare & Pension Plans I.B.E.W. Local Union No. 995, Essex County Chapter NYSARC, Inc. dba Mountain Lake Services*, Executive Management Services, Inc.

Florida Laborers Health Fund, Fulton County Chapter NYSARC, Inc.*, General Parts, LLC*, Greystone Program, Inc*, Hacienda Harvesting, Inc., IBEW Local No. 640 and Arizona Chapter NECA Health & Welfare Trust Fund, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie, Louisiana Electrical Health Fund, Maverick, Inc. Employee Health Care Benefits Plan, Memphis Construction Benefit Fund, Mid-South Carpenters Regional Council Health and Welfare Fund, Mountain Lake Services, NECA-IBEW Local 480 Health and Welfare Plan, Plumbers and Pipefitters Welfare Fund of Local Union No. 719.

Retiree Plan of the Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Health and Welfare Fund, Richmond Community Services*, Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 177 Health and Welfare, Pension and Vacation Funds, Sheet Metal Workers' National Health Fund, South Central Laborers' Health & Welfare Fund, Southeastern Pipetrades Health & Welfare Fund, Telamon Corporation Health Reimbursement Arrangement*, The ARC of Delaware County*, UFCW Local 1262 and Employers Health & Welfare Fund, United Cerebral Palsy of Ulster County, Inc*, Vincent B Zaninovich & Sons, Inc., Wayne ARC Stand-alone HRA Section 105 Plan*, Wildwood Program*, Allied Welfare Fund.

Becker County Post-Retirement Health Care Savings Plan*, Becker County VEBA*, FIDUCIA*, Triple-S Salud, Inc., B. R. Company, Britz Companies, ET AL, Century Health and Wellness Benefit Plan and Trust, EBSA Foundation Encore Enterprises, Faurecia USA Holdings, Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Inc., Minnesota Cement Masons Health and Welfare Fund, Plumbers Local

Union No. 690 of Philadelphia and Vicinity Health Plan, Robert Heath Trucking Inc., Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc., The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

United Food & Commercial Workers Unions and Employers Midwest Health Benefits Fund, WD Young & Sons, Inc., Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, United Food and Commercial Workers and Employers Arizona, Act Trust Mini-Med Plan, Allen's Family Food, Anderson Media Corporation, Blasters, Drillers & Miners Union Local No. 29 Welfare Fund, Care Initiatives, Inc., Cement and Concrete Workers District Council Welfare Fund Plan, COARC*, Construction Workers Local 147 Welfare Fund, Crystal Run Healthcare, Diamondback Management Services, LTD, Freeman Metal Products, Hardwick Clothes, Inc., Hronis, Inc.

International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Isaacson Isaacson Seridan & Fountain, LLP, Katy Industries, Inc., Landscape, Irrigation and Lawn Sprinkler Industry Health and Welfare Plan and Trust, Local 298 Health Benefit Fund Plan, Local 803 Health and Welfare Fund, Louisiana Laborers Health and Welfare Fund, M.A. Mortenson, Maple Knoll Communities, Marshall Durbin Food Corporation, Minnesota Teamsters Construction Division, Name Brand, Inc., Oklahoma Goodwill Industries, PepsiCo, Inc., Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union 823 Health & Welfare Fund, Plumbers & Steamfitters Local No. 6 Health and Welfare Fund, Regent Care Center, Rice Food Markets, Inc., Rice Food Markets, Inc.

Ricker Oil Company, Skilled Health Care, Southwestern Teamsters Security Fund, Teamsters Local 445 Welfare Plan, Teamsters Local 210 Affiliated Health and Insurance Fund, Teamsters Welfare Fund of Northern New Jersey Local 1723, The Durango Herald, The Talbots, Inc., Town of Frisco Medical Plan, Tudor Ranch,

UNITE HERE Local 74 Welfare and Dental Trust, United Employees Health Plans, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1000 and Kroger Dallas Health and Welfare Plan, United Service Employees Union, Local 377, RWDSU, UFCW, WageWorks, Inc.

IBEW Local 613 and Contributing Employers Family Health Plan (Union), Advantage Benefits Company, LLC, Aerospace Contractors' Trust**, AJFC Community Action Plan**, Altisource Portfolio Solutions, American Heritage Life Insurance Company, Americare Properties, Inc., AMN Healthcare, Andrews Transport L.P.**, Anoka Hennepin Credit Union***, APWU Health Plan Conversion Plan, Aspen Snowmass**, ATCO Rubber Products, Inc., Baylor County Hospital District, Belk Farms**, Bricklayers Local 1 of MD, VA and DC, Cardon & Associates, Inc**, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Central Mills**, Civil Service Bar Association Security Benefit Fund**, Cotton Belt Inc.**, CPC Logistics Health & Welfare Plan**, Delmarva United Food and Commercial Workers**, Dole Food Company**, EchoStar**, First Acceptance Corporation, Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst Architects, PC**, Forest Products Inc. Group Health Plan**, Fruhauf Uniform Direct Labor, Golden State Bulb Growers, Inc.**, Greater Kansas City Laborers Welfare Fund**, Grower's Transport LLC, Heartland Automotive**, Helfman Enterprises, Inc.**, Hoosier Stamping and Manufacturing Corp., Horizon Bay Realty LLC**, I.B.E.W. Local 1249 Insurance Fund**, Ingomar Packing Company, LLC.

Integra Healthcare, Inc. (Integrity Home Care)**, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**, International Brotherhood of Trade Unions Health and Welfare Fund—Local 713, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 295-295C Welfare Trust

Fund**, International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union Number 137**, Iron Workers Local Union #28 Health and Welfare Fund**, Lamanuzzi & Pantaleo**, Living Resources**, Local 1102 Amalgamated Welfare Fund, Local 1102 Health & Benefit Fund, Local 1102 Welfare Fund—Lerner Employees, Local 272 Welfare Fund**, Local 338 Affiliated Benefit Funds, Madelia Community Hospital**, Max Homes, Loc**, Medical Development Corporation**, Mesa Air Group**, Mesa Packing** Michigan Conference of Teamsters Welfare Fund**, Minnesota and North Dakota Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers**.

Mission Linen Supply, NFI Industries, Operating Engineers Local 835 Health and Welfare Fund, Opportunity Resources, Inc. Health and Welfare Plan, Orange County AHRC**, Orscheln Industries, Pacific Risk Management**, Pearson Candy Company, Pinnacle PRM**, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 430 Health and Welfare Fund**, Progressive Logistics Services**, Pure Air Filter Sales & Service**, Rancho Maria PRM**, Reiter Affiliated Companies**, Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union Local 1034 Welfare Fund.

Rio Farms PRM**, Sensient Technologies Corp., Service Employees International Union Local 1 Cleveland Welfare Fund, SFN Group, Sheet Metal Workers Funds of Local Union 38**, SMWIA 28**, Southeast OBGYN, PC**., Southern CA Pipe Trades Trust Fund, Southern Operators Health Fund**, Stonebridge Hospitality Associates**, Sun Healthcare Group, Inc., Teamsters Local 522 Welfare Fund Roofers Division, Teamsters Local Union 72 Welfare Fund**, Telesis Management Corporation, Texas Carpenters and Millwrights Health and Welfare Fund, The Mentor Network, The Wada Farms, Inc.

The Wilks Group, Inc. dba Ashley Furniture Homestore, The Wright Travel Agency**, Town of Grand Island***, Trans-System, Inc., True Leaf Farms**, UFCW Local 371 Amalgamated Welfare Fund**, United Crafts Benefits Fund**, United Food & Commercial Workers Unions and Employers Local No. 348 Health & Welfare Fund**.

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1445 New Hampshire, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1459 and Contributing Employers Health and Welfare Fund**, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 464a**, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 911**, Varsity Contractors, Inc., Waffle House, Weckworth Manufacturing**, Western Express, Inc., Western Harvesting PRM Health Plan**, WG Yates and Sons Construction Company**, World Class Automotive**, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation**, Alaska Pipe Trade U.A. Local 367 Health and Security Trust**, Amalgamated National Health Fund.

American Farms, PRM Health Plan**, American Growers Cooling, PRM Health Plan**, AUTO, LP, dba AutoInc. Health Benefit Plan**, Better Way Partners, LLC**, Big Valley Labor, PRM Health Plan**, CB Harvesting, PRM Health Plan**, City of Rockwall**, Cocopah Nurseries, Inc., Express Harvesting, PRM Health Plan**, Fallen Oak Packing, PRM Health Plan**, FirstCarolinaCare Insurance Company on behalf of Longworth Industries, Foot Locker, Inc.**, Fresh Express, G&H Farms, PRM Health Plan**, Gill Ranch, PRM Health Plan**, Gill Transport, PRM Health Plan**, Gills Onions, PRM Health Plan**, Green Valley Farm Supply, PRM Health Plan**, Greencroft Communities, Growers Express, PRM Health Plan**, Hall Management Group, Inc.**, IH Services**, Independent Group Home Living Program, Inc.

King City Nursery, PRM Health Plan**, Meijer Health Benefits Plan/Primary Care Option, Mission Ranches, PRM Health

Plan**, Moore's Retread & Tire of the Ark-La-Tex, Inc., NOITU Insurance Trust Fund**, Payroll Solutions, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local No. 630 Welfare Fund, Seco Packing, Transcorr, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1000, United Wire, Metal & Machine Health & Welfare Fund**, Western Growers Assurance Trust, Wisconsin United Food & Commercial Workers Unions and Employers Health Plan**, 1199SEIU Greater New York Benefit Fund, A. Duda & Sons, Inc., Adecco Group, Inc., Biomedic Corporation, Buffets, Inc.

Carington Health System, Cleveland Bakers Teamsters, Club Chef LLC, Columbia Sussex Mgmt, LLC, CRST International Inc., Darr Equipment, Co., DC Cement Masons Welfare Fund, Deaconess Long Term Care, Diamond Comic Distributors, Inc., ECOM Atlantic, Inc., FW Walton, Inc., G4S Secure Solutions, GC Services, L.P. & First Community Bancshares, Inc., Guardsmark, LLC, Indiana Teamsters Health Benefits Fund, Knox County Association for Retarded Citizens, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Workers Local No. 52, Mars Super Markets, Inc., MPS Group, Inc.

Nexion Health, Noodles & Company, Pharmaca Integrative Pharmacy, Quality Integrated Services, Inc., RE Rabalais Constructors, LTD, RREMC LLC, Security Forces Inc., Shirley Nursing.

Social Service Employees Union Local 371, Spindle, Cooling, & Warehouse, Strauss Discount Auto, Sunburst Hospitality, Susser Holding Corp, Telescope Casual Furniture, Teletech Holdings, Inc., The Brinkman Corporation, The LDF Companies, United Food and Commercial Workers Union (Mount Laurel, NJ), United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1459 Universal Orlando, Valley Services, Inc.

United Food and Commercial Workers and Participating Employers Interstate Health and Welfare Fund, Protocol Marketing Group, Sasnak, Star Tek, Adventist Care Centers, B.E.S.T of NY, Boskovich Farms, Inc, Café Enterprises, Inc., Capital District Physicians, FleetPride, Inc., Gallegos Corp, Hensley Industries, Inc., Jeffords Steel and Engineering, Laborers' International Union of North America Local Union No. 616 Health and Welfare Plan, O.K. Industries, Service Employees Benefit Fund, Sun Pacific Farming Coop, SunWorld International, LLC.

UFCW Allied Trade Health & Welfare Trust, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1995, HCR Manor Care, IBEW No. 915, Integra BMS for Culp, Inc., New England Health Care Employees Welfare Fund†, Williamson-Dickie Manufacturing Company, Aegis Security Insurance Company†, Alliance One Tobacco, Asbestos Workers Local 53 Welfare Fund, Assurant Health (2nd Application), Captain Elliot's Party Boats, Carlson Restaurants, CH Guenther & Son, CKM Industries dba Miller Environmental, Caribbean Workers' Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Health and Welfare Plan†, Darden Restaurants, Duarte Nursery.

Employees Security Fund, Florida Trowel Trades, Ingles Markets, Meijer, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 123 Welfare Fund, Sun Belt, UFCW Local 227, Uncle Julio's, United Group, US Imaging, Vito Farms, AdvantaStaff, Inc.†, Agricare, Alaska Seafood, American Fidelity, Convergys, Darensberries, Gowan Company, Greystar, Macayo Restaurants, Periodical Services, UniFirst, Universal Forest Products, UFCW Maximus Local 455, American Habilitation Services, Inc.†, GuideStone Financial Resources, Local 25 SEIU, MAUSER Corp., Preferred Care, Inc.

Ruby Tuesday, The Dixie Group, Inc., UFCW Local 1262, Whelan Security Company, AMF Bowling Worldwide, Assisted Living Concepts, Case & Associates, GPM Investments, Grace Living Centers, Mountaire

Corporation†, Swift Spinning, Belmont Village, Caliber Services, Cracker Barrel, DISH Network, Groendyke Transport, Inc., Pocono Medical Center, Regis Corporation, The Pictsweet Co.

Diversified Interiors, Local 802 Musicians Health Fund, MCS Life Insurance Company†, The Buccaneer, CIGNA, Greater Metropolitan Hotel, Local 17 Hospitality Benefit Fund, GSC-ILA, The Allied Industries Health Fund, Harden Healthcare, Vernon Sheltered Workshop, Inc. Health and Welfare Plan #501, I.U.P.A.T., Sanderson Plumbing Products, Inc.

Transport Workers, United Federation of Teachers Welfare Fund, Aegis, Aetna, Allflex, Baptist Retirement, BCS Insurance, Cryogenic, Fowler Packing Co., Guy C. Lee Mfg., HealthPort, Jack in the Box, Maritime Association, Maverick County, Metropolitan D.C. Paving Industry Employees Health and Welfare Fund, PMPS-ILA, PS-ILA, QK/DRD (Denny's), Reliance Standard, Tri-Pak, United Agricultural Benefit Trust.

Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank the gentleman from Texas, Judge TED POE, because what we are fighting is to make ObamaCare equal for all Americans.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and to refrain from engaging in personalities with regard to the President.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, we just heard a remarkable hour of problems that were so overblown as to be really not worthy of much discussion. But I think the American public really needs to understand what this last hour was all about. In fact, the Affordable Health Care Act is working. And it's actually working very, very well for millions upon millions of Americans.

I just want to read some facts and then move on to what is really going on here, which is an effort to try to leverage the necessity of funding the Federal Government, which is something we must do every year to provide the money to continue all of the work of the Federal Government. They're trying to use that as a lever to gain something that they've been unable to do in a Presidential election year.

The last Presidential election year, the issue of the Affordable Health Care Act was front and center, and the American people heard more than a year of debate about the Affordable Health Care Act, whether it was good or not so good, all the benefits and all of the problems that it might be. At the end, in November of last year, the American public decisively said that the Affordable Health Care Act and President Obama should continue. That was the decision by Americans.

In the House of Representatives we gained seats on the Democrat side, and

I think about 2 million more voted Democratic than they voted Republican. Although, because of the redistricting and the gerrymandering, the House remained in Republican hands.

Just understand what's going on here. What could not be achieved in the democratic process of an election is attempted to be achieved in two absolutely critical moments in the annual processing of the Federal Government.

The first moment, which comes up on October 1, is the necessity to provide money to carry on all of the tasks of the Federal Government—the Social Security Administration, the National Parks, and on and on. Nearly every aspect of the Federal Government has to be funded every year. That is a moment that is now being used as a lever to try to achieve what could not be achieved in an election. After all, America is a democracy. We make our decisions through the electoral process, not by trying to lever, using a critical moment, basically, the funding of the American Government.

Now two or 3 weeks beyond October 1 there will be yet another moment of critical importance, and that is the ability of the American Government to continue to pay its bills. It's called the debt limit. Until 2011, this was a routine process in which the Congress would continue to say, Okay, we will increase the debt limit so that we can pay our bills.

It was done during Democrat and Republican administrations routinely. There was always some discussion about the debt and the deficit, as it should be. In fact, the President, Mr. Obama, when he was in the Senate, railed against this issue of deficit. Now he's on the other side of that. That often happens.

But the fact of the matter is that in this process, these two moments of time are now being used as a lever to achieve in the legislative process what could not be achieved in the electoral process. So much for democracy.

Just a few facts about the Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare, as it's become to be known.

Nearly 13 million Americans have benefited from over \$1.1 billion in rebates from insurance companies. I was the insurance commissioner in California in 8 years. And I knew then, as I know now, that the insurance companies were overcharging the public for their health insurance policies. However, I did not have any authority under California law to order rebates.

The Affordable Health Care Act sets up a system that requires the insurance companies to pay at least 80 percent of the premium dollar for medical services. If they don't, they have to do a rebate. It's the law that they want to repeal. That's \$1.1 billion.

Also, 105 million Americans, including 71 million Americans in private plans and 34 million seniors in Medicare, have received access to free preventative services. Do you want to hold down the cost of medical services? Do prevention.

The Affordable Health Care Act requires that every insurance policy, including Medicare, provide a free medical checkup every year. Guess what has happened? The cost curve has bent downward. Why? Because serious illnesses are either treated or delayed. Diabetes, strokes, and heart conditions are analyzed early and treated, reducing the cost of health care and, far more important, keeping people alive and healthy.

Moving on. Thirty million women are receiving free coverage for comprehensive women's preventative services, including a well-woman visit and diabetes screening. They want to repeal that: 30 million American women receiving free diagnostic care. They want to repeal it.

Seventeen million children with pre-existing health conditions can no longer be denied coverage. I was the insurance commissioner. I cannot tell you the numbers of times that I begged for a law that would require insurance companies to continue or to provide insurance for a newborn child that had a serious illness, time after time, in California. Insurance companies would insure the mother for the delivery. And the moment that child was delivered, the child had no coverage. Bankruptcies and lack of medical care ensued. Seventeen million children will be denied health care coverage if they are successful in repealing the Affordable Health Care Act. That's 17 million children.

Also, 6.6 million young adults to the age of 26 have taken advantage of the ObamaCare law, the Affordable Health Care Act, to stay on their parents' health insurance plan. Do you have a kid in college or a kid that's graduated from college that's 21 or 22? They can stay on your plan. Before the Affordable Care Act, before ObamaCare, they had very little opportunity to get insurance. They would have to go out and buy their own policy. They were able to stay on their parents' policy. That's 6.6 million young adults that will not be insured if they are successful in repealing the Affordable Health Care Act.

Also, 100 million Americans no longer have a lifetime exclusion. Previously, most health insurance policies in the United States set a limit on the amount of coverage that a person could have during their lifetime or in a given year. Now, 100 million Americans no longer have a lifetime exclusion, and 100 million Americans are able to get comprehensive coverage for the duration of their illness. They want to affect the well-being of 100 million Americans.

You've heard about the senior doughnut hole, the drug coverage. Written into the law in 2003, providing drug coverage for seniors—Medicare part D—was a doughnut hole. You got the first couple of thousand dollars covered. After that, 100 percent of the cost had to be paid by the seniors.

The Affordable Health Care Act is shrinking the doughnut hole every