

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, we have officially entered la-la land, where the President thinks that by the mere power of his own voice he can turn back time by simply announcing that he will no longer enforce provisions within his own law. Think about that. The answer to fixing this law is for him to announce that they won't enforce the law. That tells you how desperate they are. His announcement today will only make things worse, and it is the American people who will continue to pay.

I, like everyone who has spoken on the floor this afternoon, have many examples of people who are being hurt today because of provisions of ObamaCare. Amanda from Bountiful, Utah, within my district, has seen her family's deductibles and the rate they will pay double.

Sundee from southern Utah has had her family's health plan entirely canceled. As small business owners, they are scrambling now to try to find something, some way in which they can maintain insurance for their family.

President Obama repeatedly promised that if you have health insurance, you can keep it. That promise has not been fulfilled. We call upon him to do that today.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share some powerful stories that Kentuckians have shared with me regarding their experiences with ObamaCare.

Jim Holloway of Glasgow was notified that his small business insurance plan will be canceled. Here is the letter:

Dear James Holloway, II, you will be moving to a health care reform, also called the Affordable Care Act compliant plan.

Mr. Holloway told me, "The plan I had was not a junk plan. I liked my plan." Unfortunately, he will not be able to keep that plan.

Tanya Veitschegger of Bowling Green also received a cancellation notice of her plan. After calling her insurance agent, she learned that a similar plan to what she and her husband had was available at a cost of \$490 more a month.

Vince Berta, also of Bowling Green, said that by being forced to go onto the exchange, his family's insurance rate will jump from \$375 a month to \$849 a month. He asks a fair question: "An over 100 percent increase—what part of this is affordable?"

The fact is that President Obama repeatedly promised Americans that if they liked their plan they could keep

it. I heard over and over from Kentuckians that is not the case.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share two stories with you.

I have a 30-year-old self-employed farmer. He had a major medical plan with a \$2,500 deductible and paid 80 percent. He paid \$122.17 a month. This plan was canceled. To get a plan now with a \$6,000 deductible and pay 80 percent, it is \$259.02 a month, but it will cover pediatric, dental, and maternity. He is an individual bachelor, self-employed. He is single and a male. His point is, "I had a plan. I liked it. The President said I could keep it. That was a lie."

I also want to share the story of Tara, Eric, and Ky Manzano. They are both employed with a son. Their premium is doubling. They are not sure how they will be able to save for college for Ky and pay for this insurance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the stories of real people in Arkansas' Second Congressional District who are being hurt by ObamaCare.

Many of them have seen their work hours reduced. Others are seeing their premiums double, triple, and quadruple. Many are losing the health insurance plans they would like to keep and wondering why President Obama told them repeatedly that that would never happen.

One single mom in Little Rock told me that her current health insurance plan will be canceled at the end of the year in just 6 weeks. She is worried this will affect her daughter who is about to start graduate school.

Terry and his wife in Rose Bud, Arkansas, will see their premium rise from \$380 to more than \$1,000 per month. That is not affordable.

Daniel Hanley, here with his horse, a vet in Little Rock, received notification that his health insurance plan was being canceled because of ObamaCare. The cancellation notice says:

ObamaCare will ultimately prevent us from offering competitive medical insurance . . . as a result, we anticipate that your medical insurance policy will be ending effective midnight December 31, 2013.

It is clear that ObamaCare is a broken law, and its broken Web site is only the beginning. ObamaCare must be repealed so we can pass real patient-centered health care reform.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, a constituent emailed my office this morning, and then she followed up with a call. She is fed up with ObamaCare.

She is battling cancer, which requires travel to a neighboring State. She told me her health insurance had been canceled due to the President's health care law. She was able to find a new plan, but will no longer be able to see her cancer doctor in Little Rock. She said:

My doctor and I are very concerned about the future treatment if I have to change docs. How many other Americans can no longer go to the treatment centers they need for lifesaving care? This is absurd. I have decided to continue my lifesaving treatments in Little Rock but will likely go bankrupt in the process. Just a little more stress the Obama plan has placed on thousands of Americans undergoing lifesaving treatment. I am angry not only for myself, but for everyone else who is going through this.

Mr. Speaker, we need to honor the promise President Obama made to the millions of Americans who like their plans but are now receiving cancellation notices.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I want you to meet Andrew Parks, a hard-working young man from Bossier City, Louisiana, who has been hammered twice by ObamaCare. Earlier this year, his employer did what so many other businesses were forced to do by the ObamaCare employer mandate. They reduced Andrew's hours from a nearly 40-hour work week to 26 hours a week. He suffered a substantial loss in pay.

Then, the other shoe dropped. His employer recently sent him this notice from a national firm that his health insurance would not meet ObamaCare standards and would be discontinued at the end of the year. His ordeal couldn't be much worse.

Andrew has fought through a long-term illness and is a survivor of cancer, yet all he has asked for is the opportunity to work hard, to earn a living, and to keep his health insurance that he could afford. All ObamaCare has done is make those goals much more difficult to reach.

ObamaCare is damaging our economy and harming individuals. It needs to be repealed and repealed now.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, my constituents are asking a simple question,

and the question they are asking the White House is: Can you hear us now, and do you understand this frustration that we feel?

I have got a constituent, Mr. Speaker, Diane, who got this letter from her insurance, Medicare, with these couple of sentences:

Effective January 1, all plans must be compliant with the new health care law; therefore, the insurance company plan you have now will no longer be available after December 31.

What happened to Diane? A plan that she liked, a plan that she was satisfied with as an 11-year cancer survivor, a plan that she could afford now was taken away based on ObamaCare, and she was "migrated" into ObamaCare, and her premium was nearly doubling.

What does Diane have to say about President Obama's offer to fix this? She said this:

I want to see legislation passed to fix this problem, legislation I can trust. I don't want an administrative trust. I don't trust that to anyone.

We need to fix this. We need to pass this legislation.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act, also known as ObamaCare, needs to be repealed and replaced with better legislation. There is no administrative or legislative fix that will repair this flawed law.

Millions of Americans across the United States are receiving notices that their health insurance plans are being canceled.

Jeff is a constituent of mine in San Antonio, Texas. His insurance company sent him a notice informing him that his current coverage will be canceled at the end of the year. His new ObamaCare policy will cost 98 percent more than his current plan.

After the administration's announcement today, Jeff and his family may be able to keep their health care insurance coverage, but only for 1 year, and at what cost?

We need to replace ObamaCare with commonsense solutions that lower costs, expand access to care, and eliminate unfair mandates and penalties.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the Americans we are discussing today did nothing wrong. They purchased insurance before any Federal mandate ordered them to. Now they are losing their insurance.

Katie Rupert is a constituent of mine. At 33, she was diagnosed with breast cancer, a sickness that later spread to her brain. She started radi-

ation and travels to Houston to see her oncology specialist. Today, she is a Stage IV cancer survivor and doing well, but she knows that this will not last forever.

Katie had good coverage through her husband's workplace but is losing it because of ObamaCare. What is worse, she has been told that her doctors are not covered by her options on the ObamaCare exchanges. She is a wife, a mother, an inspiration, and now she is another example of this law's collateral damage. That is the impact of ObamaCare.

We can do better. We have to do better. We owe Katie and others like her at least that much.

□ 1715

REMOVAL AS CONFEREES AND APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3080, WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to clause 11 of rule I, the Chair removes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GRAVES) as a conferee on H.R. 3080 and appoints the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) to fill the vacancy.

The Clerk will notify the Senate of the change in conferees.

There was no objection.

SECOND CHANCE ACT

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

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am going to change the tenor a little bit and do a little switching, although I must confess that there is not much more important in this country than trying to make sure that citizens have access to quality, comprehensive health care. And I think that we are much closer to that than we have ever been and look forward to it actually happening.

As I was listening, I was reminded of something that my father used to tell us, that if you keep telling yourself the same thing over and over and over and over again, you will eventually get to the point where you believe it.

Being here to do a Special Order, though, reminds me of my good friend, Representative Major Owens, who was famous for doing Special Orders. I remember when I first came here that you could see Representative Major Owens on the floor late at night, by himself, talking about education and the need to make sure it happened. And I guess the fact that he was a trained librarian may have had something to do with that.

So I wanted to just take a moment and pay tribute to Representative Major Owens for the tremendous work that he did on education, and espe-

cially the work that he did that led to the creation of something called PBIs, predominantly black institutions, as a part of the Higher Education Act.

So, Major, many, many students will remember your contribution to the development of what we know as these 75 or so institutions across the country that are called predominantly black institutions, and who now receive special consideration for funds because of that designation.

I also, before I delve into my subject, want to express condolences to the family of Commissioner Devera Beverly, who passed away earlier this week and is known as probably the most profound advocate for public housing and public housing residents in the city of Chicago and, perhaps, throughout the Nation, because she has spent more than 30 years advocating for this population group and was a founding member of the Public Housing Museum, which is well on its way to being developed.

So we express condolences to the family, friends and associates of Commissioner Devera Beverly, who lived in the Abila Homes in Chicago. That is A-B-L-A, Abila Homes. But she was a public housing resident who advocated to the point of being selected by the mayor of the city of Chicago to be a commissioner of the Chicago Housing Authority. So we salute you, Ms. Devera Beverly.

Now I want to talk about something that is near and dear to my heart, but it is also near and dear to the hearts of many, and it is also part of a crisis that actually exists in our country.

Our country is known for many things, as it should be. It is one of the, and perhaps the, wealthiest country on the face of the Earth. It is one of the most technologically proficient countries in the world today. It is one of the most highly educated countries.

But it also is the country that has the distinction of having more people incarcerated, both per capita and in actual numbers, than any other country on the face of the Earth. More than 2.3 million people sit, tonight, in our prisons throughout America.

About 750,000 of those come home every year; and you know, of all the individuals who are incarcerated, most of them will come home, or they will go somewhere. There are numbers of individuals who do, in fact, die in prison. They are lifers, and in many instances they are individuals who have committed horrible crimes, sadistic crimes, crimes that suggest they should never be let out on their own.

But most individuals will return home, or they will return to some community; and when they do, what happens to and with them will often determine whether or not they remain on the outside, or how soon they will return to the inside.

There are some things that we know about this population. We know that if they do not receive any help, many of them, about two-thirds, within a 3-year