

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. JOHN ADAMS

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. NUNNELEE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome to the House of Representatives this morning Dr. John Adams, Jr., who offered the prayer earlier.

Dr. Adams is a native of Mississippi, and he is currently the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Mantachie, Mississippi. He is joined by his wife, Darla Kaye Fuller Adams.

Dr. Adams has served as senior pastor in churches in Mississippi, Texas, Colorado, and Arkansas. Dr. Adams has spoken throughout the South and around the country, sharing a 13-part series about the Judeo-Christian heritage of America. He also presently serves as the executive director of the Moral Action of Mississippi and of the national organization, the Moral Action of the Baptist Missionary Association.

We are honored to have him here today, and we deeply appreciate his service to our Lord and to the people of Mississippi.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The Chair will now entertain 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE PATIENT OPTION ACT

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, now more than ever, Americans are feeling the pain from ObamaCare. This law is hurting Americans with higher premiums and cancellation notices. If it is left in place, our country will suffer under the new wave of spending that it will create.

This destroyer must be stopped.

Just last week, the House passed a symbolic bill that merely nibbled at the edges of the problems caused by

ObamaCare, but you cannot fix a law that will cripple our economy, increase our Nation's debt, and limit health care options for millions of Americans. I was one of only four Republicans to oppose this bill, because we can't fix the President's broken promises in ObamaCare. Instead, we must repeal ObamaCare for good.

I have introduced legislation, the Patient OPTION Act, that would do just that. Congress must stop wasting time to pass bills that keep ObamaCare in place. We must repeal and replace this disaster immediately. The Patient OPTION Act is the solution.

WORLD TOILET DAY

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the concept of a World Toilet Day can make children giggle, some adults blush and others change the subject, but the title is designed to take a most serious subject head-on.

The world can no longer afford to be squeamish, to make jokes or to change the subject about the fundamental issue of access to adequate sanitation. That is because 2.5 billion people live without it, which leads to 700,000 premature deaths each year, and it is getting worse. Instead of solving this global crisis, the number living without access has increased by 700 million people.

Today, we want to renew our commitment to helping these unfortunate people around the world have access to sanitation, which we all take for granted.

I appreciate the Gates Foundation and other NGOs, like WaterAid, for stepping up to help solve the dilemma, and I call on my colleagues to support H.R. 2901, which Congressman POE and I have introduced, which is the Water for the World Act, so that the United States can play a greater, more effective role to save lives around the globe.

"MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD"

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Rodney from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, pays \$540 a month for a family health insurance plan that covers his wife, his 16-year-old son, and himself. This plan works well for them and fits within their family budget; but Rodney received the same unwelcomed news that has startled millions of other Americans: the health insurance he likes will be canceled because the "suits" in Washington think his preferred plan is lousy. The most similar government-sanctioned ObamaCare plan will cost Rodney's family \$1,139 each month—more than their mortgage payment.

Understandably, Rodney is sickened by this news.

I have worked very hard my entire adult life to take care of my family and provide for

all of their needs. How am I supposed to continue to support them . . . with the government forcing me into a situation I cannot afford?

Rodney closed his letter by asking me:

If you do nothing else, please do everything in your power to make our voices heard.

House Republicans are doing that every day for Rodney and for Americans like him.

IF YOU FIX IT, THEY WILL COME

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, despite all of the hysterical comments like we just heard on the floor here today, it is important for people to know that, in States in which Governors embrace the Affordable Care Act and set up a high-functioning Web site, the fact of the matter is that enrollment is exceeding expectations.

In Connecticut on Friday, which is where I am from, we released figures. Over 13,000 enrolled in the first 6 weeks, and the pace of enrollment is accelerating. In the last 2 weeks, they have enrolled more than they had enrolled in the prior month. On Saturday, I was at an enrollment fair—there were eight of them all across the State—and there was a full waiting room of people who were waiting their turns—like at a deli counter to get their numbers—to sit down to get help in terms of signing up with a plan. Twenty minutes is all it took to sign up for a plan.

I spoke to Merrylyn Weaver from New London, Connecticut, who said:

I am finally going to have health insurance after 3 years of being without it.

It took her 20 minutes to sign up for an Anthem Blue Cross Silver plan.

The fact of the matter is that the message is, if you fix it, they will come. That is what this Congress should be focused on is fixing it so that the people in the waiting room like I saw in Norwich, Connecticut, are going to get help all across the country. It is time to help people get insurance, not to scare them and destroy a plan that provides them hope.

RECOGNIZING BAYLOR REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE 2013 MALCOLM BALDRIDGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano on their latest accolade—the 2013 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, which is the Nation's highest Presidential honor for performance excellence through innovative practices and visionary leadership.

For nearly a decade, Baylor Plano has provided north Texas with high-quality and compassionate care. Their superior patient satisfaction rate and dedication to training the best and the brightest go unmatched. Baylor Plano's success and patient-centered care is a testament to the endless possibilities when you have choice and freedom on your side.

It is an honor to congratulate Baylor Plano's employees, medical staff, and volunteers for doing their part to keep Texas' bigger and better reputation intact. I wish them continued success.

God bless you, and I salute you.

EMPLOYMENT NONDISCRIMINATION ACT

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

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge House leaders to let us vote on the Employment Nondiscrimination Act.

In 1979, my late husband, Paul, was the first U.S. Senator to introduce legislation to ban job discrimination based on sexual orientation. I agreed with him then and feel just as strongly about ENDA today. Employees should be judged solely by their ability to do their jobs.

After I was elected in 2007, I was proud to cast one of my first votes in support of the passage of the Employment Nondiscrimination Act, an effort spearheaded by the relentless Barney Frank. While ENDA passed in the House of Representatives in 2007, it did not move in the Senate; but on November 7, the U.S. Senate made history by passing ENDA. It is now time for the House to act—to pass ENDA and to finally expand protections in order to prevent employment discrimination.

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of dignity, justice, and equality, let us vote.

CANCER DRUG COVERAGE PARITY ACT

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, orally administered anticancer drugs are becoming the standard care for certain types of cancer as a promising alternative to traditional chemotherapy, which is administered through the vein. They are also driving some of the most exciting research in fighting cancer as 35 percent in the oncology pipeline are oral chemo drugs.

Unfortunately, insurance policies have not kept pace with the science. Typically, IV chemotherapy is covered as a medical benefit while oral chemotherapy is covered under the prescription drug component. This creates a disparity in coverage and a financial disincentive to choose oral chemotherapy. Cancer patients should choose a course of treatment based on what they and their doctors believe will work best.

That is why I have introduced the Cancer Drug Coverage Parity Act. It would require insurance plans to provide coverage for oral chemotherapy at a cost no less favorable than that of traditional chemotherapy. My bill has 68 bipartisan cosponsors. I urge my colleagues to join us to support the development of these promising new treatments to patients who need them.

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AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, even with the difficulties of the health care Web site, we are seeing great things coming out of this Affordable Care Act. Across the country, millions of people who lacked affordable health care options yesterday are checking out their new options today. This law is working.

I continue to hear scores of success stories from California. Marilynn, who is a breast cancer survivor, was paying nearly \$1,300 a month for her Anthem Blue Cross policy. Through Covered California, she is saving now more than \$500 a month.

Although the healthcare.gov Web site has had its problems—that we are fixing—know that the California exchange has become a model for the rest of the country. Early enrollment results demonstrate that Covered California is working and people are signing up. We led the Nation in our readiness for this new law, and newly released numbers show that 131,000 Californians have already enrolled in new quality health plans on Covered California, more than any other State exchange.

Rather than rooting for its failure, let's work together to make this a reality for all Americans.

HEALTH CARE ACT ADVANCES EQUALITY, FREEDOM, AND FAIR- NESS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I pause today to think about history. I thought a lot about the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's assassination, and today is the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. I thought I should bring some words to us from the Address. The world can never forget what the soldiers of Gettysburg did:

It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of free-

dom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth.

I am proud to serve in this House where John Kennedy served. I am proud to serve in this House where Abraham Lincoln served. It is my opinion that part of that work was providing equality, freedom, and fairness. I believe President Lincoln would support the Affordable Care Act and health care for all.

WE NEED A FAIR AND BALANCED BUDGET

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, many of our constituents are still recovering from the reckless Tea Party government shutdown. Now it is time to do our job and pass a budget, help grow the economy, and create jobs. Budgets are statements of our values and priorities as a Nation.

Our top priority in passing a budget must be to end the harmful, across-the-board budget cuts known as the sequester. We must extend emergency unemployment compensation which millions of jobless workers and families rely on. This will end at the end of December if we don't do this.

Although our economy has improved, there are still 4 million people in this country that have been unemployed for 6 months or more. These same individuals have already experienced reductions in their benefits due to sequestration and automatic SNAP—food stamp—cuts as of November 1.

Tea Party Republicans have refused to create jobs, they have cut job training, and now they are ready to pull the plug on this vital lifeline. This is morally wrong and economically stupid.

I urge the budget conferees to extend the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program for at least an additional year and to repeal the sequester. We need a fair and balanced budget that reflects our values.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow will mark the 50th anniversary of the executive order of President Kennedy which established the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Five hundred exceptional individuals have received the award in these 50 years. Tomorrow, 16 will be honored, including President Bill Clinton.

For us in Hawaii, it is noteworthy that the Hawaii-born President will be honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye. In his press release, the President recognized the Senator for his lifelong public service, including the highly decorated 442nd Regiment in World War II, for which he was awarded the highest