

betterment of our entire Nation. We must come together and support these bipartisan solutions that encourage economic growth, better paying jobs, and lead to more economic prosperity for all.

□ 1215

#### 1973 HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 1973 basketball team from Howard High School in Wilmington, Delaware. This year marks 40 years since Howard's sensational '73 team won Delaware's boys State championship with an undefeated season of 24-0.

Howard's '73 team wasn't the biggest; but the Wildcats were disciplined, and they played with a lot of heart. They were led by their brilliant guards David Roane and Kenny Hynson and the irrepressible Mike Miller, who battled much taller players under the boards.

Supported by a big family of coaches, teachers, classmates, and Howard alumni, the Wildcats became the first team in Delaware history to finish the season undefeated.

There were several games where it looked like Howard might get knocked off, including a nail-biter against the much bigger Salesianum in the State semifinal; but the Wildcats were always able to pull out the victory in the end.

Today I want to recognize Howard High School's 1973 boys basketball team, honor them for their historic season, and thank them for the work they continue to do for youth in the State of Delaware.

#### HOMEOWNERS FLOOD INSURANCE RELIEF ACT

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, homeowners in my home State of Florida and across the country face significant flood insurance rate increases as a result of the reforms made to address the solvency of the National Flood Insurance Program.

To ensure that NFIP remains both affordable for homeowners and sustainable for taxpayers, I have introduced H.R. 3312, the Homeowners Flood Insurance Relief Act. The bill would cap a homeowner's premiums at the end of a 10-year phase-in to no more than the appraised value of the structure over the course of a 30-year mortgage. It would also allow homeowners to pay premiums on a more affordable monthly basis rather than an annual lump sum.

These commonsense changes will ensure that homeowners stay in the pro-

gram and any increased premiums do not harm the already fragile housing market's recovery. Furthermore, they continue the intent of the NFIP, protecting homeowners from devastating floods while also ensuring the program is able to cover its costs.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation forward.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to highlight the 100th legislative day that my colleagues and I have come to the House floor and called for action on climate change.

Since we started this effort, California has been rocked by devastating wildfires, the Midwest has been damaged by tornadoes, an early-season blizzard has wiped out livestock in the Dakotas, and deadly floods have destroyed parts of Colorado.

Extreme weather events caused by climate change continue to affect families and businesses across this country. These are not random occurrences, but constant reminders that climate change is real. We will continue to make our voices heard on the House floor until everyone comes to the table, effective action is taken, and future generations are protected.

#### OBAMACARE IS NOT WORKING

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

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, as I listen to the conversation this morning and the 1 minutes that are given, I don't hear many of my friends across the aisle talking about ObamaCare.

When I am back at home, I am hearing from thousands of people who have lost their insurance—people who did the right thing: Americans who bought insurance to cover themselves and their families who have now lost their insurance; Americans who we asked to do the right thing, and they did it.

In Wisconsin, 95 percent of Wisconsinites were covered. Instead of working on the 5 percent that weren't covered, we have now abandoned our health care system, and it is broken for those Americans who tried to do the right thing.

In my district, Denise needs a kidney transplant. She has lost her insurance. She has lost her doctor. She is going to the exchange looking for insurance, and the one option that she has doesn't provide coverage for her current doctor. This is life and death for so many Americans.

I hope that my friends across the aisle will start to talk about ObamaCare and how we fix it to make

it work for the American people, because right now it is not working.

#### A NEW DAY FOR HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, the prior speaker's prayers are about to be answered.

Mr. Speaker, my State of Kentucky is a national model for how the Affordable Care Act can make our constituents' lives more secure and their businesses stronger. I would like to share one story. Will Russell is the owner of Why Louisville, a small independent business in my district that specializes in locally designed clothing and art. The father of a 1-year-old, he also has a preexisting condition that led insurance companies to deny him coverage for the past 15 years.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, beginning January 1, Will and his wife and son will be covered under a plan they found on Kynect, Kentucky's health insurance exchange. Will estimates his family will save \$300 a month. Add that to the peace of mind that comes with knowing he will never face medical bankruptcy and the threat of losing his thriving business just because he didn't have access to insurance.

He has been so pleased with the ease and affordability of Kynect that he is now exploring coverage for his employees for the first time through the State's small business exchange. Mr. Speaker, Will's story is one among millions of Americans who are finding expanded care through the Affordable Care Act. To quote Will:

It's going to be a new day for my family, for me, and so many people just like us in Kentucky and throughout the country.

#### SHARE YOUR OBAMACARE STORY

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the millions of Americans who have lost their health insurance under ObamaCare.

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Federal Government's chief watchdog, is holding a field hearing this Friday in Apache Junction, Arizona, entitled, "ObamaCare Implementation, the Broken Promise: If You Like Your Current Plan, You Can Keep It." As a member of this committee, I am joining Chairman DARRELL ISSA to listen to Arizonans tell their ObamaCare nightmares.

I want to know how this terrible law is hurting you personally so we can show President Obama and the Senate Democrats the damage ObamaCare is inflicting throughout Arizona and across the country. I encourage you all to come and let your voices be heard.

Mr. Speaker, we are listening. If you are not able to attend, but would like to share your story, please visit [www.gop.gov/yourstory](http://www.gop.gov/yourstory). ObamaCare has always been fundamentally flawed. I will continue to do all I can to protect the American people from this horrific law.

#### UNFINISHED LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, with fewer than 7 legislative days left in the year, the window to address the staggering list of unfinished business before the House is rapidly closing: no farm bill, no long-term budget, no tax reform, no ENDA, no comprehensive immigration package, no replacement for the sequester. In fact, the GOP has continuously failed to govern and create real solutions to the pressing issues facing this country.

Over the past 11 months, Republicans have undermined the important economic progress that we have made, disproportionately harming low-income women and children and keeping 11 million undocumented immigrants in the shadows. They have gutted nutritional programs, voted to repeal health care reform 43 times, and shut down the government in a fit of pique, putting millions at economic risk.

This holiday season, as Americans enjoy exchanging gifts with family and friends, I am afraid all they are going to find from House Republicans is a lump of coal.

#### CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare exemplifies perfectly the problem of bureaucratic hubris. Confident that Americans would come to see their mass-produced health care as “better,” the “suits” in Washington chose to pass a completely partisan law and, regardless of promises, forced unwanted insurance changes on millions of Americans.

Many of my constituents object to the characterization of “better.” Coverage isn’t better if it is not what a family wants or needs. It is not better if its shiny new mandates make health care unaffordable.

Holli from St. Clemmons knows this too well. She wrote to say:

I am a geriatric care manager. I pay \$171 per month. My deductible is \$2,500. I went on [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) and was informed I now will get no financial assistance to pay for my plan. If I choose the lowest cost plan, I will be paying \$330 per month. My doctor is not listed as a provider, and my drug deductible will be \$2,500. I feel I am caught between a rock and a hard place.

“Better,” for Holli, would be a health care law that doesn’t make her insurance preferences illegal.

#### SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 100th consecutive legislative day the Safe Climate Caucus has spoken on the House floor calling for action to address climate change.

The science, itself, is clear: climate change is already contributing to significant environmental changes—unprecedented droughts, floods, and hurricanes, to name a few.

But climate change is not only a serious environmental problem. It is a serious economic problem as well. American businesses, large and small, understand this threat; and they are responding accordingly. They are increasing their energy efficiency, reducing pollution, and implementing more sustainable business practices. American businesses understand that the changing climate is already hurting their bottom line, and they are taking action to strengthen their competitiveness and their resiliency.

Congress should be doing the same. Yet our majority continues to stick its head in the sand and do nothing. Climate change poses a real and immediate threat to our economy, and we really can’t afford to wait any longer. I urge my colleagues to join with American businesses in taking action now to address this urgent problem.

#### TIME FOR REAL SOLUTIONS

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

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to one number that has remained too high for too long, and that is the number of unemployed people in this country. Right now, that number stands at 11.3 million. That is 11.3 million of our fellow Americans. These are not just statistics. These are real people. They are our friends, our neighbors, our children; and they deserve better. These are policies that encourage real economic growth that will create jobs Americans need—not higher health care costs, policy cancellations, and threats of job loss brought on by ObamaCare.

This unworkable law is causing health care premiums to rise all across the country, particularly in my home State of North Carolina; and millions of Americans have had their insurance policies canceled. This is not a plan for growth. It is a plan for more strain on hardworking Americans. It is time for real solutions. It is time to get Americans back to work.

#### THIS CONGRESS IS LAZY

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, by the end of December, 1.3 million unemployed Americans will lose their unemployment benefits because Congress refuses to act. It has been 1,066 days since I arrived in Congress, and the Republican leaders have still not allowed a single vote on serious legislation to address our unemployment crisis.

As we approach the holidays, many families will grieve and worry. Many will suffer because, in January 2014, they will be the victims of the unemployment crisis. The sad fact is this: we have solutions, but the Republican leaders have abandoned these common-sense solutions and will not bring them to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, in this tight jobs market, it is not the unemployed who are lazy. It is this Congress that is lazy. Our mantra should be: Jobs, jobs, jobs.

□ 1230

#### AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Affordable Care Act.

As the American people know, Members of Congress now are covered by this law. And, rightly so, we should engage in the D.C. exchange. I want to tell you about my personal experience with the D.C. exchange.

The President said you can keep your health care plan and that your premiums will go down. Mr. Speaker, I lost my health care plan. I have five children. My premiums have gone up significantly. I don’t know if I can keep all the same doctors that treat my children.

If this is such a great law, why isn’t the President of the United States covered by this law? On day one, why didn’t the President of the United States have a Rose Garden ceremony as customer number one under his law, ObamaCare, and sign up for this? The answer is that he hasn’t signed up for it because maybe he doesn’t think it is good enough for his family, but yet it is good enough for the American people.

That is the height of hypocrisy and arrogance in Washington, and it needs to stop.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 3546, the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2013.

Without congressional action, the Federal Emergency Unemployment