

rising but deductibles are going through the roof. This is painful for a family who should be planning for college but instead is planning to spend more money on their health care because the Affordable Care Act is so unaffordable.

The New York Times recently quoted someone faced with this problem as saying the deductibles were so high—\$4,000 to \$6,000 a year—that it very much defeats the purpose of having insurance. I wonder why we say that. Well, think about it for a minute or two. Think about a family who has a \$4,000 deductible. What does that mean to the average family, where Americans are spending over 100 percent of their income? What that means to the average family is they have to figure out how to pay \$4,000 for visiting their doctors, getting their x rays, and having everything done at the doctor's office, getting their blood work done, before they can satisfy that \$4,000 deductible and their health insurance plan starts paying. Under ObamaCare, one would think that number would go down, but it doesn't. It goes up. As a matter of fact, it goes up quickly in the first year of ObamaCare. It goes from an average out-of-pocket expense of \$63.50 to over \$12,000—not \$4,000, not \$5,000, not \$6,000 but over \$12,000 in out-of-pocket expenses.

So I am looking forward to the day we have a serious conversation about a free market solution that would reduce the cost of health insurance and at the exact same time create greater access for the average person in America to afford a free market health insurance policy. That is where we need to go. That is where the conversation should be. Instead of having that conversation, we are having a conversation about deductibles jumping \$5,000, out-of-pocket expenses going up significantly. And I should have said that when you combine the out-of-pocket expenses and the deductibles, the out-of-pocket total for a year is the \$12,000. The average deductible is a little over \$5,000.

We are talking about a significant taking from the average American family—taking their money out of their pockets in the form of deductibles, taking money out of their pockets in the form of copays. And God forbid they actually go outside of the network. In many of these plans, we are talking about zero coverage out of network for ambulatory care. A family would bear 100 percent of the cost. So don't travel to the wrong place with the wrong plan at the wrong time. You will find yourself stuck without benefits because, unfortunately, the ACA isn't affordable for most Americans. I find that sad.

We think we are having a conversation about nominees here today, and we think we are having a conversation about nominees because President Obama has somehow, some way been treated differently than President Bush and other folks. But the facts are sim-

ply inconsistent with the reality of the alternate universe that has been created by the left.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time has expired.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are going to have a confirmation vote on Cornelia Pillard. That will be the first vote. Then we are going to have—I don't believe there will be a need for a rollcall vote on the quorum. I think there will be enough Senators here that the Chair will be able to see clearly there are 51 Senators here. Then we will have a cloture on Executive Calendar No. 378, Chai Rachel Feldblum of the District of Columbia to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Then, Mr. President, the next vote will be tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. This morning, yes; I am sorry.

We are going to do everything we can to finish our schedule before Christmas, but it is going to be pushing it. We will do our best. But this session doesn't end until the end of the year, so we are going to continue working until we get our work done. I am not going to yield back all of our time on all of our nominations. We are going to do those piece by piece.

I hope the body has been able to understand what a waste of time this has been, but we are going to confirm these nominations, and that is a step in the right direction.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Cornelia T.L. Pillard, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 256 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Casey	Hirono
Baucus	Coons	Johnson (SD)
Begich	Durbin	Kaine
Bennet	Feinstein	King
Blumenthal	Franken	Klobuchar
Booker	Gillibrand	Landrieu
Boxer	Hagan	Leahy
Brown	Harkin	Levin
Cantwell	Heinrich	Markey
Cardin	Heitkamp	McCaskill

Menendez	Reid	Tester
Merkley	Rockefeller	Udall (CO)
Mikulski	Sanders	Udall (NM)
Murphy	Schatz	Warner
Murray	Schumer	Warren
Nelson	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Reed	Stabenow	Wyden

NAYS—44

Alexander	Fischer	Murkowski
Ayotte	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Pryor
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Inhofe	Scott
Collins	Isakson	Sessions
Corker	Johanns	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—5

Carper	Coburn	Moran
Chambliss	Kirk	

The nomination was confirmed.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1402. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3521. An act to authorize Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility leases, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1797. A bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted on December 11, 2013:

By Mr. CARPER for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SESSIONS, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1799. A bill to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1800. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1801. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to include in the calculation of normal value the cost of paying adequate wages and maintaining sustainable production methods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DONNELLY (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. COATS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 1802. A bill to provide equal treatment for utility special entities using utility operations-related swaps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. REED):

S. 1803. A bill to require certain protections for student loan borrowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 1804. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 28. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. REED):

S.J. Res. 29. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 317. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the continuing relationship between the United States and Georgia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 318. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the critical need for political reform in Bangladesh, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 38

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 38, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a

Federal jury on account of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 209

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 209, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 489, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase and adjust for inflation the maximum value of articles that may be imported duty-free by one person on one day, and for other purposes.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement.

S. 636

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow certain hospitals in Puerto Rico to qualify for incentives for adoption and meaningful use of certified EHR Technology under the Medicare program.

S. 862

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 862, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate.

S. 878

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 878, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 947

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 947, a bill to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, and for other purposes.

S. 1011

At the request of Mr. JOHANNES, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1011, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

S. 1069

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Wis-

consin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1069, a bill to prohibit discrimination in adoption or foster care placements based on the sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status of any prospective adoptive or foster parent, or the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

S. 1114

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1114, a bill to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, and for other purposes.

S. 1187

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1187, a bill to prevent homeowners from being forced to pay taxes on forgiven mortgage loan debt.

S. 1217

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1217, a bill to provide secondary mortgage market reform, and for other purposes.

S. 1235

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1235, a bill to restrict any State or local jurisdiction from imposing a new discriminatory tax on cell phone services, providers, or property.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1271, a bill to direct the President to establish guidelines for the United States foreign assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for cooperative and small employer charity pension plans.

S. 1417

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1417, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

S. 1419

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1419, a bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1510

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.