

The President promised that Americans would be able to keep the doctors they liked. In fact, Americans have lost the doctors they liked and trusted, not to mention access to convenient hospitals and needed medications.

The President promised that shopping for ObamaCare would be like shopping on Amazon or Kayak. The reality is the President's own former Health and Human Services Secretary recently admitted it was more like buying an airline ticket using your fax machine.

We are still just talking about the ways ObamaCare has harmed Americans' health care. But the damage hasn't been confined to health care. ObamaCare is also hurting our already sluggish economy.

Take the ObamaCare tax on life-saving medical devices, such as pacemakers and insulin pumps. This tax has already eliminated thousands of jobs in the medical device industry, and it is on track to eliminate thousands more if it isn't repealed. In fact, this tax is so bad that even Democrats who voted for ObamaCare support repealing the tax.

Then there is the ObamaCare 30-hour workweek rule, which has forced employers to cut workers' hours and wages, and there are the numerous—numerous—ObamaCare rules and regulations that are making it difficult for small businesses to hire and create jobs. It is no wonder that Democrats are rethinking their decisions to support this law.

Americans have made it clear they do not like ObamaCare, and Republicans are listening. One of our top priorities when we take the majority in the Senate in the new Congress will be working to repeal this law and replacing it with real reforms—reforms that will actually cut costs and improve Americans' access to health care.

In the meantime, we will focus on chiseling away at the law's most harmful provisions. We want to repeal the job-killing medical device tax and restore the 40-hour workweek so that employers will no longer be forced to cut workers' hours in order to afford health care costs. Many Democrats as well as Republicans opposed these ObamaCare provisions, so I look forward to bipartisan repeals.

The senior Senator from New York was right when he said Democrats made a mistake when they decided to focus on the President's health care law instead of on jobs and the economy. In poll after poll, Americans have made it clear they want their representatives in Washington focused on creating jobs and on growing the economy, and that is what the new Republican majority in the Senate intends to do.

We will take up legislation to improve the Keystone XL Pipeline and the 42,000-plus jobs it would support. We will take up House-passed bills that have been gathering dust on the Democratic leader's desk.

We will work with the President to expand trade promotion authority to open new markets for American agricultural products and manufactured goods, and we will take up legislation to repeal the President's national energy tax, which could eliminate tens of thousands—hundreds of thousands—of jobs and devastate entire communities.

We also intend to take up big projects that would help put our economy on a path to long-term health, such as legislation to simplify and streamline our costly and inefficient Tax Code.

The election results were pretty decisive. Americans made it very clear they were tired of the Democrats' policies and they wanted a change in Washington, and Republicans are listening. Our priorities in the next Congress will be the American people's priorities. We will focus on creating jobs and growing our economy, and we hope the Democrats will join us. The American people have been waiting long enough.

Madam President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Mr. CARPER. I object, just for a moment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The assistant bill clerk continued with the call of the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent to speak for at least 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TAXPAYERS RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I first wish to spend a few minutes talking about my colleague and chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

The last 2 years have been a real pleasure on my part, and I have grown to have a great friendship with the chairman of the committee. I can truly say in our committee we have done a lot of great work. We have both compromised on a lot of issues to try to move the country forward, and to him I am thankful for that. I don't think either of us have had to break on any principles we have had to be able to do that. I think our committee has been a model in terms of doing bipartisan bills and on bipartisan approval of nominees. For him, I would say I appreciate his leadership this past year. He has the unfortunate attribute of having the same initials I do, so it is somewhat confusing on our committee. But

maybe that is why we have been as successful as we have.

I also wish to recognize the hard work of so many of the staff members on both sides, the work they put in, and the cooperative nature under which they have worked.

We have before us a bill we are trying to clear called the Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act, and it is actually a continuation of a bill that Senator CARPER, myself, and several others—including the President—started when we started the transparency act back in 2009. This follows along with the DATA Act which was passed this year.

What this bill does is says the American people ought to know where the money is being spent, and so it says the agencies are going to list the programs they have. It is done in a stepwise fashion so it doesn't put too much pressure on OMB as they try to implement it. I believe at this time we are waiting to make sure we have clearance for this before we ask for a unanimous consent.

I yield my remaining time to the chairman of the committee, Senator CARPER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I would like to say to my colleague, Ted Kennedy said to me when I first got here a number of years ago, talking about compromise and that sort of thing—he always said: I am willing to compromise on policy, not on principle.

I think if we look at what we have accomplished in the last 2 years, that is exactly what we have done. I thank my colleague for being a great leader—not just of his caucus but of our body and for being my friend.

With that, I would say on the legislation that is before us, as he suggested, the Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act does build on previous legislation reported out of our committee. Some of those bills, the DATA Act, the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act, and some others have been signed into law with bipartisan support, including by the current President.

The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act is a good government bill that will provide better and more detailed information to Congress and the American people about Federal spending. Congress has passed several bills in the last few years to improve transparency on government spending and to get this information online. Unfortunately, the information has not always been provided at the level of detail taxpayers and a number of my colleagues and I would prefer.

This bill builds on the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act passed in 2010 and that I coauthored with Senators WARNER and Akaka. That bill required OMB to work with agencies to create a list of all Federal programs that can be accessed on a single Web site.

Unfortunately, there has been no consistency whatsoever across the government in how agencies define the term "program." GAO has agreed that the current program list isn't giving us the kind of transparency we want because agencies took different approaches in defining their programs. The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act addresses this problem by defining the term "program."

GAO has also noted that the current program inventory does not allow Congress and the GAO to compare similar programs, which is an obstacle to measuring government performance. Additionally, budget and cost information is not available for all programs.

This bill will ensure that agencies provide a full list of their programs along with important information about each program. For grants and other types of direct assistance, it will provide information on how many people a program serves and how many people it takes to run it.

A complete inventory of Federal programs, along with budget and financial information at the program level, will allow Congress to compare similar programs and identify overlap and duplication.

The bill has strong bipartisan support in our committee and was reported out without dissent. Seeing it to final passage would be a good win for this Congress.

I am pleased to yield back to our colleague from Oklahoma for a unanimous consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 2113

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 531, S. 2113; that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Madam President, I don't like this bill. The White House doesn't like the bill. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session to consider the Lodge and Walter nominations.

NOMINATION OF VIRGINIA TYLER LODGE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AU- THORITY—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the Lodge nomination.

Mr. REID. I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question occurs on the Lodge nomination.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Virginia Tyler Lodge, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 320 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Alexander	Gillibrand	Murphy
Ayotte	Graham	Murray
Baldwin	Grassley	Nelson
Barrasso	Hagan	Portman
Begich	Hatch	Pryor
Bennet	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reid
Booker	Hirono	Rockefeller
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Boxer	Inhofe	Sanders
Brown	Isakson	Schatz
Cantwell	Johanns	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Scott
Carper	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Casey	Kaine	Shaheen
Coats	King	Shelby
Cochran	Kirk	Stabenow
Collins	Klobuchar	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Lee	Udall (CO)
Cornyn	Levin	Udall (NM)
Cruz	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCain	Warner
Enzi	McCaskill	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Fischer	Merkley	Wicker
Flake	Mikulski	Wyden
Franken	Murkowski	

NAYS—12

Blunt	Crapo	Paul
Burr	Heller	Risch
Chambliss	McConnell	Roberts
Coburn	Moran	Toomey

NOT VOTING—2

Harkin	Landrieu
--------	----------

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. This vote we are about to have will be the last recorded vote of the day.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

I now ask unanimous consent that following the vote on confirmation of

Executive Calendar No. 1095, the Senate consider Calendar Nos. 800 and 801; that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that any rollcall votes following the first in the series be 10 minutes in length; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. We expect the nominations to be considered by voice vote.

NOMINATION OF RONALD ANDER- SON WALTER TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AU- THORITY—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the Walter nomination.

Mr. REID. I yield back that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Ronald Anderson Walter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority?

Mr. CARDIN. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 321 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Alexander	Carper	Fischer
Ayotte	Casey	Flake
Baldwin	Coats	Franken
Barrasso	Cochran	Gillibrand
Begich	Collins	Graham
Bennet	Coons	Grassley
Blumenthal	Corker	Hagan
Booker	Cornyn	Hatch
Boozman	Cruz	Heinrich
Boxer	Donnelly	Heitkamp
Brown	Durbin	Hirono
Cantwell	Enzi	Hoeven
Cardin	Feinstein	Inhofe