

order to strike the provision and send it back to the House, without the provision which they found objectionable—their Parliamentarian did—and which required the so-called blue slip.

So I appreciate very much the agreement of the Democratic leader, who agreed to this unanimous consent request, so that we can move forward with a conference on the bill and hopefully, if now things go right, we could get it to the President's desk in July.

I thank the Democratic leader, who has agreed to this unanimous consent request, in order that we might move forward. So I express my appreciation to him for allowing this.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives the papers on H.R. 1735, the Secretary of the Senate re-engross the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1735, with the following: Strike section 636.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The bill, H.R. 1735, which was previously ordered to be printed as passed by the Senate, and was printed in the RECORD of Monday, June 22, 2015, was modified by unanimous consent to strike section 636.)

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today in this great country of ours the Affordable Care Act—ObamaCare—has survived the latest partisan attempt to deny health coverage to working families. Millions of working families won today. America won today. The Supreme Court ruled against Republicans who were seeking to strip 6.5 million Americans of the subsidies that enable them to buy health insurance coverage. America won, I repeat, very pure, very simple.

More than 10 million Americans are covered in the exchanges operating across the country, many of them insured for the first time, and 85 percent of these men and women receive tax credits that help them afford that coverage.

On top of that, 12 million more Americans now have coverage through the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs. The Commonwealth Fund recently found that more than 8 in 10 adults—four-fifths—of people who have these programs are satisfied with them. The Affordable Care Act is not perfect. No law ever is. But this law is working for millions—approaching 20 million—Americans.

Once again, the Affordable Care Act prevailed. So I say to my Senate col-

leagues, respectfully—and I mean that—stop banging your heads against the wall. This legislation passed. It is the law of this Nation. Stop. Move on. Republicans should pause for a minute and look back.

I don't know the number anymore. I don't know, I lost count—is it 75? It is certainly approaching 100—of the actual votes which have taken place to repeal the law. Never even came close to passing, but they have done it time and time again. Stop it. Think of the time wasted doing it. As Einstein said, the pure definition of insanity is someone who keeps doing the same thing over and over again and gets the same results.

I would hope the Republicans would rethink what they have been up to—their reckless, cynical attempts to increase taxes on millions of middle-income families. That is what it amounts to.

I was interested in looking at the paper today regarding what Republicans have suggested doing if the Supreme Court ruled against this law. Every one of them, without exception, would be a tremendous blow to the budgeting process of America. This bill makes America money. It has cut the deficit significantly. That is why I say it makes the country money. It allows for a more healthy nation.

Republicans weren't content to jeopardize the health of Americans in need of coverage assistance in order to exact political revenge against President Obama. They were happy trying to do that. I also think it is important to note that Republicans who worked on this legislation in the process going through the committees here admitted that the legislation drafters never discussed withholding subsidies in the manner suggested by the plaintiffs. Republicans who worked on the legislation said that.

So I think the public has basically had it with Republicans trying to take away a law that protects them from insurance company discrimination when they get sick or hurt. Enough is enough.

I had a "Welcome to Washington." I have them every Thursday. I had a group of people here from Nevada who have family members who suffer from cystic fibrosis. They were able to tell me that for the first time in the lives of their children they could not be denied insurance. They are adults now. They can't be denied insurance coverage because of this law. If this had been repealed, people with cystic fibrosis and many other diseases would not be able to get health insurance. So let's move on. Stop this. Stop wasting the time of the American people by trying to repeal the law.

I appreciate the work done by the Supreme Court, a 6-to-3 decision. It was a good decision, a strong decision that upheld the law. Enough is enough. Let's move on.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the first hour equally divided, with the Democrats controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

OBAMACARE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, that we are even discussing another of ObamaCare's self-inflicted brushes with the brink—yet again—is the latest indictment of a law that has been a rolling disaster for the American people, a rolling disaster for the American people.

Today's ruling will not change ObamaCare's multitude of broken promises, including the one that resulted in millions—literally millions—of Americans losing the coverage they had and wanted to keep. Today's ruling will not change ObamaCare's spectacular flops—spectacular flops—from humiliating Web site debacles to the total collapse of exchanges in States run by the law's loudest cheerleaders. Today's ruling will not change the skyrocketing costs in premiums, deductibles, and copays that have hit the middle class so hard over the last few years.

The politicians who forced ObamaCare on the American people now have a choice: They can crow about ObamaCare's latest wobble toward the edge or work with us to address the ongoing negative impact of a 2,000-page law that continues to make life literally miserable—miserable—for so many of the same people it purported to help.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I have two very brief comments. One involves our national security and the world at large and the other involves our Nation as a whole.

First, as to the Supreme Court ruling. I am surprised. I am disappointed. But the ruling is now in. Senator MCCONNELL said it well: This doesn't mean ObamaCare is fixed; it means it is going to continue until somebody

finds a better way or we are going to be left with ObamaCare for the rest of our lives and children's lives and those who follow.

The 2016 race domestically will be centered on health care as the most dominant domestic issue in the country. If you are running for the House, if you are running for the Senate or if you are running for President, here is what this Supreme Court ruling means: If the public wants to continue ObamaCare—which I think would be a huge mistake—vote Democrat. If you want to repeal and replace ObamaCare with something better for you and your family, bipartisan, vote Republican.

Hillary Clinton, the most likely Democratic nominee, will make ObamaCare her own. Whomever the Republican Party may nominate, the one thing I can assure you is that they will repeal and replace ObamaCare with something better.

So to the people of the United States: You finally have a chance to have your say. This election in 2016 for the House, the Senate, and the White House will give you a chance to stop ObamaCare and replace it with something better for you and your children. Take advantage of this opportunity. Because if we fail to have the people in place in 2016 to change course, ObamaCare becomes cemented in terms of the American health care system and our economic future. I think it would be a mistake for the ages.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, as I speak, Secretary Kerry is on his way to Geneva to try to conclude nuclear negotiations with the Iranian regime.

To Secretary Kerry: I urge you to suspend negotiations until we clear up two matters.

No. 1, the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on state-run television in Iran, yesterday and the day before, "All economic, financial and banking sanctions, implemented either by the United Nations Security Council, the United States Congress or the administration, must be lifted immediately when the deal is signed." Secretary Kerry, would you please tell the Ayatollah that is unacceptable and repudiate that statement before you negotiate any further.

The Iranian Parliament, several days ago, passed draft legislation prohibiting the international community from having access to Iranian military facilities to determine the state of the Iranian nuclear program. Secretary Kerry, please suspend negotiations until the Iranian Government repudiates this concept. The P5+1 should be firm in these areas: There will never be a deal signed with Iran that does not allow for anytime, anywhere inspections of nuclear sites, particularly military sites. How can you negotiate any further until they repudiate the actions they have taken?

Please tell me—and I will send you a letter—what to tell my constituents

who are very worried about this. I am being overwhelmed by questions: Does the Iranian Parliament action represent the position of the Iranian Government? My answer would be yes. Nothing happens in Iran unless the Ayatollah wants it to happen.

So Secretary Kerry and the P5+1, please tell the Iranians that the action of the Parliament—the statement they have made that we will not be allowed to inspect military facilities as part of a deal—is a nonstarter and walk away until they repudiate that. Please send a message to the Ayatollah through the negotiators that we will not lift sanctions until there is full compliance, until the IAEA has a chance to tell us about the possible military dimensions of their nuclear program. How can you lift sanctions and go forward and give them money until you know exactly what they have been up to in the past?

Secretary Kerry, now is a time for you and President Obama to send a clear message to the Iranians: repudiate these two statements or we will not negotiate any further.

This is the most important decision any President of the United States will make, and we are about to go into negotiations in the final stages with two thought processes on the table coming from the highest level of the Iranian Government: You will not be allowed to inspect military facilities, and we will demand immediate sanctions relief before there is verification.

Those two statements coming from the Iranian leadership must be repudiated—and repudiated now. Walk away, Secretary Kerry, until they repudiate these statements. No more negotiations until we understand, is this a red line for the Iranians. Because if this is their red line, I will now ask you in public: Secretary Kerry, are these positions red lines for the Iranian Government? Have they now adopted a red line that you will never be allowed to inspect military facilities as part of an inspection regime to determine the past development of nuclear weapons in Iran? Secondly, is this now a red line by the Ayatollah; that they will never agree to a deal that doesn't allow for immediate sanctions relief?

I need to know the answer to that question. Are these red lines? And if they are red lines, walk away. And if they are not red lines, have these statements repudiated because this is the most important decision the world will ever make.

God help us all if we enter into a deal with this regime that is not sound, with every i dotted and every t crossed, because the Iranians have been cheating and lying about their nuclear ambitions for well over a decade, and at the end of the day, you can't trust the Iranians.

I urge as strongly as possible that the P5+1 suspend negotiations until the Iranians set the record straight and repudiate these statements about denying us access to military facilities and

requiring immediate sanctions relief as part of any deal.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

THE ECONOMY AND HEALTH CARE

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I want to talk a little bit today about jobs and the economy and people's health care, and they are all related. We are in the midst of one of the slowest growth periods for the economy in the recent history of the United States. They just revised the figures again. That makes three times the figures have been revised for the last quarter. They now show a two-tenths of 1 percent growth. They should be showing about 2 percent growth for the year.

Why is that a problem? If the economy increases by just 1 percent, it results in \$300 billion to \$400 billion more tax revenue without raising taxes. That is where we need to be. When it is less than that 2 percent, that means we are losing that much in additional money. We make these decisions on about \$1,100 billion a year, and we are overspending that by \$468 billion. That is almost 50 percent overspending. No family can afford to do that, no city can afford to do that, and no State can afford to do that, but apparently the Federal Government can because we just borrowed more. So far, there is a lot of confidence in this country that we can continue to borrow.

One of the areas where job growth and economy growth are impeded is with health care. President Obama is disconnected from the harsh reality that this health care law has created for people. Almost 2 weeks ago, speaking about his health care law, the President said:

Part of what's bizarre about this whole thing is, we haven't had a lot of conversation about the horrors of ObamaCare because none of them have come to pass.

None of them have come to pass? How insulated is our President? I just want to emphasize what he said—none of those horror stories have come to pass.

Apparently that message didn't make it very far because I hear a drastically different story from folks across Wyoming and other parts of the country.

A rancher from Gillette complained to me that her and her husband's health insurance went up from \$11,000 per year to \$20,000 per year and then had a deductible thrown in that was \$6,500. She said: How is that affordable?

A retired nurse from Casper told me that if you add the premium increases and the deductible increases, she and her husband are up \$36,000 per year.

She wrote: Health care is unaffordable. It is a huge burden and worry. How can people afford to pay more for health care than they make in a year?

She said that ObamaCare doesn't provide them with coverage for their medical needs and added that it goes