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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father, we wait in reverence before Your throne. Cleanse us from our sins, creating in us clean hearts while renewing a right spirit within us.

Help our lawmakers today to discern Your voice and do Your will. Give them the ability to differentiate Your guidance from all others, permitting You to lead them to Your desired destination. Grant them, O God, minds to know, hearts to seek You, wisdom to find You, and conduct to please You. Speak to them through Your Word, guide them with Your Spirit, and sustain them with Your might.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PAUL). The majority leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday the Senate took the next step in allowing us to eventually pass a continuing resolution. While negotiations are ongoing, I want to thank colleagues on both sides for their cooperation in voting to proceed to the bill that will be used as a shell for the CR-

Zika legislation. This will allow us to start work so that when we have an agreement, we will be able to review and debate it.

We all know how important these funds are for combating Zika and supporting our veterans. Let's continue to work quickly so we can eventually pass an agreement as soon as possible.

OBAMACARE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, my friend the Democratic leader has a favorite saying. He often says that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. I am not sure his fellow Democrats got the memo.

At a time when ObamaCare is raising health costs dramatically and chasing competition out of the health industry and collapsing on itself, Democrats just rolled out a brandnew health care idea to fix the problem that even they grudgingly admit is plaguing families. And what is their answer? More ObamaCare. No, this is not a joke. Democrats actually introduced legislation last week calling for ObamaCare 2.0, a new government-run health plan. It is not as if this is even a new idea. It is just a stale leftover from the health care debate back in 2009, an idea many Democrats once deemed so bad that it was cut from the final ObamaCare bill, but now it is their Hail Mary.

It is beyond tone deaf, and there are good reasons that so many in their own caucus will not support it. It is insulting to millions of Americans who continue to watch their premiums spike after Democrats said they would be lower. It is insulting to the millions of Americans who continue to watch their out-of-pocket costs shoot ever higher after Democrats said it would be affordable. I am sure Democrats will make plenty more promises to sell their latest bad idea; I am just not sure

the American people are in a mood to listen anymore.

Health care costs just rose last month by the largest amount in over three decades. Deductibles are outpacing wages, premiums are spiking by double digits just about everywhere and could even increase as much as 60 percent in some places. This is ObamaCare's legacy. It is a direct attack on the middle class. It is ruining lives and making life even harder for those who struggle already.

I have a message for our friends across the aisle: Remember what your leader likes to say about doing the same thing over and over. Stop denying reality, stop pretending this is somebody else's fault, own up to what you have done to the middle class, and then work with us to build a bridge away from it. ObamaCare is scary enough for America's middle class. The last thing Americans need now is some government-run sequel.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

OBAMACARE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my entire caucus got the message. We understand Einstein's definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, and the over and over again, my friend should understand, is the fact that Republicans have voted 70 times to repeal ObamaCare, each time with the same result. My friend should know that every one of my Senators got the memo, as he said.

If someone would spend a minute each day flipping through the newspapers about health care, they would understand that ObamaCare has changed America for the better. Twenty million people now have the opportunity to go to the doctor when they

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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are sick or to the hospital when they are hurt. That wasn't the way it used to be, and the American people are beginning to realize that the constant carping about ObamaCare from the Republicans is wrong. It is wrong for a number of reasons. The American people are beginning to realize that with just a little bit of help, ObamaCare could be made even better. A report came out yesterday that premiums for ObamaCare are still less than employer programs. It is about 3 percent lower than the company-run plans.

The marketplace is what it is all about, and that is what is determining what is happening with ObamaCare. The disabled can get insurance, young men and women can stay on their parents' insurance until the age of 26. Insurance companies are limited in how they can punish people, as they did in the past. They can't set an arbitrary limit as to how much insurance they would provide. If somebody was hurt in a serious accident, they would just terminate them from the insurance, not to mention all of the other things. We were at their mercy. Obviously Republicans want to go back to that same system, and it is not a good system.

DONALD TRUMP

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I learned a long time ago here in the Senate that the rules of the Senate do not allow pictures, graphs, and things of that nature to go in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and that is really too bad. I wish I had the time this morning—I read the paper this morning—to blow up this cartoon by the syndicated cartoonist of the Washington Post, Tom Toles. I have talked to him a couple of times over the past many decades because he is really good, and today's cartoon is about as good as it gets.

This is a picture that Tom Toles sketched of Donald Trump. I would like everyone to take a look at it. I wish I could put it in the RECORD. It is a cartoon of Donald Trump, and he is saying: "Maybe we need to start 'profiling' huckster haircuts, beady eyes, blowhard lips, unhealthy orange glow, obvious self-dealing"—and he has money pouring out of his pockets—"overweight, underhanded, ever-shifting positions." And, as Toles always has in every cartoon, there is a little person down in the bottom generally making some snide remark about the cartoon, and what that little person says today is that there is a "body of evidence"—the body of Donald Trump, and he is the one who should be profiled, not the people he wants to have profiled.

A little more about Donald Trump—Mitt Romney and I agree on one thing, and that is one thing for sure. There are other things we would agree on, but let's talk about one thing that Mitt Romney and I agree on, and that is that Donald Trump should release his tax returns. But Trump will not release his tax returns. He refuses to release

his returns, and he comes up with one excuse after another to not release his tax returns. It is a little odd because the Donald Trump we are talking about is not known for cautionary restraint; he is the most unhinged and reckless Presidential candidate ever.

Let's consider just a little bit of his track record. We have seen Trump refer to women in the most crude and derogatory manner. We have seen Trump call immigrants murderers and rapists. We have seen Trump fearmonger against Muslim Americans, even the parents of one of our proud soldiers who lost his life fighting for our country. We have seen Trump mock someone with a disability on more than one occasion. We have seen Trump impugn a Federal judge. Why? Because his parents were Hispanic. We have seen Trump continue to question President Obama's country of origin. We have seen Trump casually raise the specter of an assassination against Hillary Clinton on more than one occasion. This is the Donald Trump we know. Donald Trump will do and say anything regardless of the consequences.

Why does Trump refuse to produce his tax returns? Why is this the one time in his life that he exercises caution? Why does he maintain absolute silence on his taxes? The answer is very simple—because Trump's tax returns would further destroy his Presidential candidacy. Production of his tax returns would again prove that he is a fraud. If the American people had access to Donald Trump's tax returns, they would show he is not the billionaire he claims to be. Trump wants us to believe that in spite of all of his bankruptcies and litigations that have been going on for decades, he is the incredibly wealthy, successful businessman that he portrays himself to be. But he is not, and his tax returns will prove he is far from a wealthy Trump.

Donald Trump's tax returns will also prove that he avoids paying his fair share of taxes. On the rare occasion that Donald Trump's tax returns have been made public—that was on one occasion some time ago—they showed that he paid nothing in income taxes. As the Washington Post reported earlier this year:

The last time information from Donald Trump's income-tax returns was made public, the bottom line was striking: He paid the federal government \$0 in income taxes.

Donald Trump is afraid that if his supporters discover that he has avoided paying taxes, they will see him for what he is—someone the IRS should charge with a crime and investigate, or at least do something. He deserves all the scrutiny he can get because he doesn't want us to see what he has in his so-called income.

Perhaps the most damning evidence of Trump's tax records would be that he lives off the American taxpayer. Donald Trump is a freeloader. Even though Trump refuses to pay his share of taxes, he is content to use other taxpayers' hard-earned money.

Yesterday we learned that his charity—they don't put money in it. He gets other charities to donate to his charity, and then he goes out and tries to be a big shot by donating other people's money. Even though Trump refuses to pay his share of taxes, he is content to use other taxpayers' hard-earned money.

One news outlet has reported that over the last three decades Donald Trump has received \$885 million in tax breaks. Let's put that in perspective. In 2014, the entire State of Ohio received \$686 million in Federal funding to provide benefits for needy families. That money helped almost 120,000 people in Ohio. Trump received \$885 million, and the entire State of Ohio received only \$686 million. There is no question about it: Donald Trump is a welfare king, but the welfare king doesn't want voters to see that he doesn't pay taxes even as he uses a billion of taxpayer dollars to keep his bankrupt companies afloat. Trump doesn't want Americans to see that he claims middle-class tax credits.

This is a report in the New York Daily News:

The flame-throwing Republican contender for the White House appears to be the only New York City billionaire who snagged a tax break aimed at middle class homeowners, raising even more questions about his alleged billions.

Continuing to quote:

An analysis of property records for 38 Big Apple billionaires on the 'Forbes 400' list conducted by Crain's New York Business found Trump was the only one to receive the STAR tax credit. That credit . . . gives those entitled to around \$300 off their tax bill.

So is he a billionaire? I doubt it.

Donald Trump, this self-proclaimed billionaire, has been falsely claiming a \$300 tax break for years. He has done it for a number of years. Like a sponge, Donald Trump soaks up all the taxpayer money he can find while at the same time not paying his fair share of taxes.

Remember, the same Donald Trump, who once said:

The problem we have right now, we have a society that sits back and says we're not going to do anything. And eventually the 50 percent cannot carry, and it's unfair to them, but cannot carry the other 50 percent.

I think Donald Trump is confused about who is carrying whom. He is the one relaxing, playing golf at his golf courses, many of which are largely paid for by taxpayer dollars, and depending at the same time on the American taxpayer to bankroll his company and his golf game, but Trump doesn't seem to care. In fact, he brags about how he uses other people's hard-earned money.

Here is what he said yesterday:

It's called OPM: Other people's money. There's nothing wrong with doing things with other people's money. That's what I do.

How could Speaker RYAN, Senator MCCONNELL, and other congressional Republicans endorse this man for President or endorse him for anything? How can they continue to support Donald Trump as he shuns transparency