

Melanie and her husband are near retirement. Before ObamaCare, their monthly health insurance premiums were around \$600. ObamaCare promised them reduced insurance premiums and increased access to care.

But this promise to Melanie, like it was to millions of Americans, was broken. Melanie's premium skyrocketed to nearly \$1,000 a month for a plan with a \$5,000 deductible. Her monthly premium is now more than their mortgage.

When her husband was laid off, their options were limited: continuing coverage through COBRA or entering the ObamaCare marketplace. The ObamaCare plans were even more expensive. While Melanie's husband was looking for work, they depleted their savings trying to maintain health insurance.

Melanie is one of millions of Americans who have been hurt by ObamaCare. It has raised Melanie's premiums and deductible, and when she needed an affordable option in an emergency, it wasn't there.

ObamaCare is collapsing. It is time to repeal it and provide relief to the millions of Americans suffering because of it.

COASTAL EROSION

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, climate change is real; and it is so real that, before Donald Trump became President, he petitioned Ireland for a permit to build a seawall for one of his greatest golf courses in the world. His permit application said rising sea levels and extreme weather conditions from climate change threatened his property.

As President, he seems to have changed his tune. In fact, a draft budget proposal from the administration zeros out investments in NOAA's Coastal Zone Management Program, zero dollars for an initiative that provides critical resources to communities facing the same threat from rising sea levels as the President's golf courses.

You know, if it sounds like I am outraged about this, it is because I find this so outrageous. This is going to hurt people in coastal communities.

I would like to invite the President to Taholah on the Quinault Indian Reservation. Tribal elders would tell him that the ocean that was once a football field away is now their front porch and creeps closer and closer every day.

They would like a brand-new seawall, too. But, unfortunately, they aren't billionaires. They need a partner in the Federal Government to protect their homes. So do folks in Ocean Shores and Westport and Neah Bay and coastal communities throughout my State.

Before releasing his budget, I hope the President remembers that it is not just his golf course that is at risk. We are talking about people's homes and

people's lives, and they deserve better than this.

OBAMACARE HURTING TEXAS FAMILIES

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

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare is hurting Texas families, as the Speaker knows. The law has led to higher costs, fewer choices, and less access to the quality health care that is what the American people deserve.

Currently, over 70 percent of the counties nationwide have two or fewer insurers. Texas could see as much as a 48 percent rate increase in 2017. This is proof that ObamaCare is failing.

Hardworking Americans and their families have been begging for an end to the ObamaCare burden. It is up to this House to provide one.

House Republicans have forged a new path to patient-centered health care. Our plan looks out for the most vulnerable and allows for Americans to choose a plan that best suits their healthcare needs.

I am committed to repealing the broken promises of ObamaCare and replacing them with health care that works for Texas families.

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TRUMPCARE

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, this is day 49 of the Trump administration, which has been characterized by chaos, crisis, and confusion. Donald Trump promised to bring the jobs back, but the jobs bill must be in the witness protection program because, for the life of me, I can't find it.

Instead, we get TrumpCare, a bill that would destroy health care in America as we know it. TrumpCare will increase premiums on the American people. TrumpCare will increase copays on the American people. TrumpCare will increase deductibles on the American people. TrumpCare will increase the cost of prescription drugs on the American people. TrumpCare will reduce coverage for the American people. TrumpCare will be a disaster. And that is why House Democrats are going to do everything in our power to stop this reckless version of health care for America.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHURUBUSCO HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a historic accomplishment that took place this past

Saturday night in northeast Indiana. As you may know, in Indiana, we love basketball. We affectionately refer to our passion for the game as Hoosier Hysteria.

This is a special time of the year for Hoosiers. Every year, high school teams across our State compete in the annual Indiana high school basketball tournament. For one team, this year turned into a special season. Churubusco High School, located in Whitley County, first competed in the Indiana boys high school tournament in 1981. Over the years, many great players wore the Eagles uniform, but Churubusco High School never won a sectional title until this year.

This past Saturday night the Eagles claimed the Class 2A Woodlan Sectional, winning Churubusco's first sectional championship trophy in the 99-year history of its boys basketball program. Eagle senior Luke Foote, who scored 26 points in the sectional championship game, said after the win: "It is huge for the community knowing that history was made. It means a lot to the guys that put on the jersey before us. . . ."

I congratulate the Churubusco Eagles, head coach Chris Paul, and the entire Churubusco community on this historic accomplishment. The celebration of this sectional title is truly a century in the making.

REPUBLICAN HEALTHCARE BILL

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, for 7 years, Republicans have been making promises about their secret healthcare plan. They said that under their plan, nobody would have to carry health insurance if they did not want to; and then when they got sick, they could demand their health insurance with no exclusions for preexisting conditions, no limits on coverage for expensive diseases, and that their coverage would be better and cheaper than ObamaCare for all Americans.

While they made these questionable promises, the Affordable Care Act provided more than 20 million Americans with lifesaving health care. And now, after 7 years, Republicans have finally revealed their secret plan. We now see that virtually all their promises were lies. Their plan will rapidly bankrupt Medicare, and those over 50 will see massive cost increases, and millions will lose their health care.

They did keep one promise, though. Massive new tax cuts for the wealthy. For that, millions of American families will pay a terrible price.

REPUBLICAN RESCUE MISSION

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, as a physician, I know firsthand ObamaCare

is in a death spiral. Now we are on a rescue mission. The President and our replacement bill repeals the ObamaCare mandates and taxes, but preserves three important protections:

One, we don't allow denying coverage or charging patients more with pre-existing conditions.

Two, we don't allow insurers to charge women more for being women.

Three, we allow children to stay on their parents' plan until age 26.

Going forward, we bend the cost curve downward by decentralizing health care, promoting competition, and expanding HSAs. We make health care more affordable by providing tax credits, creating value pools, and more judiciously redirecting Medicaid dollars back to those who need it most: children, elderly, and those with disabilities.

BOB LEVINSON'S FAMILY DESERVES ANSWERS

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, today, March 9, marks 10 years since my constituent Bob Levinson disappeared in Iran. I had hoped that I would not have to come to the floor today to mark this day or to introduce another resolution on Bob. I had hoped that Bob would be home in south Florida with his wife, his seven children—one of whom is with us today—and his six grandchildren. Bob should be home in time to see his two new grandchildren born later this year.

Ten years is too long. This family deserves answers. Iran must stop playing games, promising to assist finding Bob, agreeing last year to open a new dedicated channel for Bob's case, only time and time again refusing to follow through. Iran must provide meaningful information that will bring Bob home. This new administration must press Iran at every opportunity. I stand ready to work with them and with anyone who is committed to bringing Bob back home to his family where he belongs.

DRIVING DOWN HEALTHCARE COSTS

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

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the American Health Care Act. For 25 years, I practiced dentistry in Georgia's Third District, and I saw firsthand a healthcare system in need of reform to reduce costs and increase access to care.

After ObamaCare was signed into law, these problems only got worse. I saw my patients, friends, and neighbors forced away from their doctors that they trusted. Instead of decreasing costs, patients saw their premiums

skyrocket, their deductibles skyrocket, and their access to care limited. As a healthcare provider, I want to do what is best for my patients. I committed to them that I would come to Congress to repeal ObamaCare and undo the damage that it has done to our healthcare system.

The legislation we are currently considering in the House, the American Health Care Act, is just the first step toward keeping that promise. By passing this legislation, we begin to move the ball down the field and gain yardage rather than continuing to lose ground. This is not our only play. It is the first step in beginning to drive down costs and increasing access to care for patients.

This legislation will keep our promise to repeal ObamaCare and eliminate the government mandates that force people to purchase a product that they don't want. It will allow patients the freedom to make their own healthcare decisions and drive down their costs.

REPEALING THE ACA HURTS MY DISTRICT

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

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with you what repealing the Affordable Care Act means to Pennsylvania's Second Congressional District:

369,000 people who receive health care from their employers could lose consumer protections;

335,000 people with health coverage that covers preventive care services could lose their coverage;

62,000 people covered by Medicaid expansion could lose their coverage;

21,000 people who receive financial assistance will be at greater risk of not being able to afford coverage.

These are our mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, and friends and neighbors. Philadelphia deserves a healthcare law that offers quality, affordable care. We must continue to speak up and speak out against the new healthcare law that hurts so many people in our city, our State, and our Nation.

HONORING SARA WOODS

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I recognize a dedicated public servant from Nebraska. Sara Woods' contributions to our community as an educator, volunteer, and leader serve as a model for current and future generations across our Nation.

Mrs. Woods has lived a life of service and inspiration impacting the community with her dedication. Throughout her educational career, she has encouraged her students to be engaged learn-

ers. Sara was crucial in the creation of many service organizations whose purpose is to equip, train, and encourage young leaders to serve their communities. She currently serves on the boards of several nonprofits in Omaha and works to improve conditions for youth, women, and the homeless.

In recognition of her service, she received the University of Nebraska Omaha Chancellor's Award in 2005 and the YWCA Women of Distinction award in 2009.

Sara now oversees the operation of the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. She was involved in the creation and development of this institute, which works to combine great ideas and organizations with the boundless energy of the University of Nebraska Omaha campus.

Mrs. Woods has helped cultivate the same passion for service in others and fostered stronger bonds within our community and beyond. We would do well to adopt her inspiring passion for public service.

HONORING VAIL TOWN MANAGER STAN ZEMLER

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise before this body to recognize Mr. Stan Zemler of Vail, Colorado, who is leaving local government service after a career of over 30 years in our great State of Colorado.

Mr. Zemler served as the town of Vail's manager for the past 13 years. Before that, as the city of Boulder's acting and deputy city manager, as the Boulder Urban Renewal Authority's executive director, and as the CEO of the Boulder Chamber of Commerce, where I met Stan almost 20 years ago. What a terrific career with positive impacts on both Boulder County and Eagle County, two very important counties in my district.

Stan's leadership is about community partnering and consensus building. He really worked hard with various agencies, including Federal, State, local government, with the U.S. Forest Service, and the Department of Transportation to enhance Vail's local community, international guest services and amenities, and strengthened its economic position as a sustainable international resort.

He has been active in working with others in the I-70 Coalition and Colorado Association of Ski Towns. He has won numerous awards for his service. He will be missed in Eagle County for his service. We remember him fondly in Boulder County.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute to Stan Zemler on behalf of the residents of the Second Congressional District and myself personally. His distinguished service to the town of Vail and municipal government is an important legacy for many years to come.