

the top. Those who are at the bottom and in between believe that the country can afford things that it can't. This is all about the concentration of wealth.

They are using their power to influence politics. You can't speak truth to power if you are afraid of the big banks. You can't speak truth to power if you are afraid of the Big Oil companies. You can't speak truth to power if you are afraid of the big insurance companies and big pharmaceutical companies.

If you are going to speak truth to power, you have got to stand up to the people who are driving this country into a Third World position. I refuse to participate in it.

Mr. Speaker, currently, 1 in 10 on the planet are living off of \$2 a day. In this country, millions are going to go without proper healthcare, if the Senate "wealthcare" bill passes. They will go without proper healthcare, while millions in bonuses are going to be accorded those who are with insurance companies and receiving a part of the "wealthcare" transfer.

Mr. Speaker, in this country, the top 10 percent hold 76 percent of the wealth. In the United States of America, the top 10 percent hold 76 percent of the wealth. They are able to get away with it because they convinced all of us that one day we might hit the lottery and be in the same position as they are and control the world.

Well, my friends, if you don't hit the lottery and you have to continue your life, you ought to have decent healthcare in the richest country in the world.

□ 1045

You ought to have the best healthcare that we can provide, in the richest country in the world. We are not a Third World country, and I will not participate in this transfer of wealth that is taking place so that those who are wealthy can do more with more.

It seems that we believe that if you are poor, you can do more with less. But if you are wealthy, you need more to do more. This is a shameful, sinful circumstance that we find ourselves in.

As for the Senate "wealthcare" bill, it is a piece of trash, and it ought to be thrown on the ash heap of history.

No one who believes that people are equal and deserve good healthcare can, in good conscience, vote for that bill. I am glad they pulled it, but I hope that they will improve it to the extent that I will be able to vote for it. But if they do not, I say to you without question, reservation, hesitation, or equivocation, I will not support that transfer of wealth, that bill that would concentrate wealth, and I won't support the tax bill that will concentrate wealth, if there is one.

This has got to stop. This inequality of wealth has got to change. We have got to turn it around. Let's do so by providing good healthcare and not "wealthcare."

THE HEALTHCARE DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the healthcare debate that we are having here in the United States.

We had a bill come out of the House of Representatives. We have a working bill that has just come out of the back room in the United States Senate. I think it is important for us, Mr. Speaker, to get some clarity on where each party stands on this issue.

When the Democrats passed the Affordable Care Act, we had some clear goals. We had some clear objectives, back in 2008, 2009, 2010. Our goal and goals as a party were simple: we wanted to expand access to healthcare. We wanted to make sure, in the wealthiest country that God has ever created, that every citizen, wherever you lived, urban, rural, suburban, you would have access to affordable healthcare.

We wanted to make sure that the insurance companies wouldn't knock you off the rolls or charge you a lot of money to get a plan, that when you got sick and you went in to cash in the plan and get some coverage, they said: Oh, we don't cover that. We wanted to make sure that didn't happen.

We wanted to make sure that if your kid had cancer or if you had cancer and the healthcare bills started ratcheting up pretty quickly, that the insurance company couldn't come in and say: Sorry. This is a tragic situation for you and your family, but you just hit your lifetime cap, so we can't cover anything else. You have to go to the Ronald McDonald House, and you have got to go do a fish fry at the local union hall to try to get enough money together to try to pay your healthcare bills, in the wealthiest country God has ever created. That is unacceptable here in the United States.

We were trying to cover more people. You know what? We paid the political price for it, but sign me up. I think of my friends John Boccieri and Steve Driehaus, former Members of Congress. They gave up their seats in this Chamber to make sure that American citizens had healthcare. The Democrats went into the minority since 2010, primarily because the Republican Party used this issue to bludgeon the Democrats. They demagogued the issue. Repeal and replace. Seven years, no plan. Nothing.

And now we have got two bills—one from the House, one from the Senate. Both bills, neutral analysts, the Congressional Budget Office says 22 million Americans will lose their healthcare. Fifteen million will lose it in the next year. If you are between 50 and 64 years old, you are probably going to lose your insurance. If you are a 60-year-old person in Ohio, you are going to pay \$4,000 more a year.

We get off this recent Presidential campaign where we heard a candidate: We are going to expand Medicare. We

are going to expand Medicaid. It is going to be beautiful. Everyone is going to be able to afford insurance. I am not inhumane, is what one person said, one candidate said.

But the realities, Mr. Speaker, are much different, because in the wealthiest country God has ever created, we have a political party that is trying to throw 22 million people off of their healthcare. We need to get some clarity. We are trying to cover people. I am not trying to be judgmental, but I am just saying the Congressional Budget Office is saying, in both bills, 22 million people are going to lose their healthcare.

Democrats, in order to implement our bill, we asked the wealthiest in the country to pay a little bit more. With that revenue, we expanded the Medicaid program for people who were working. If you made less than \$90,000 a year, they got a little bit of that money to help them pay for health insurance so they had more money in their pocket so they could go out and not only take care of their families, but be able to spend and help boost the economy. That is what we wanted to do. That is what we did.

Republicans cut taxes for the wealthy and cut the program by \$700 billion. Clear differences, Mr. Speaker. We need to knock down both of these bills and start all over. We need to fix the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 51 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAAYER

Reverend Dr. Howard Siplin, Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Coconut Grove, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, almighty giver of all good gifts and authority, I stand humbly before You today to pray for the sins of this country, to ask for Your forgiveness, and to express our gratitude to You for this great country which we live in during these difficult times.

Father, I pray for the success and healing of all who labor here in the House of Representatives working together to use their influence and opportunities to change the world and make it better.

Heavenly Father, bless all our leaders of this great Nation as they face the ongoing challenges, give them the

right spirit to do the right thing for the needs of all the people.

Father, keep us all in the hollow of Your hand, we give You honor and glory now and forever.

In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

THE SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STEWART 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. HOWARD SIPLIN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WILSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to welcome the esteemed Reverend Dr. Howard Siplin to the House floor as our guest chaplain.

Reverend Dr. Siplin was my classmate from first grade to twelfth grade in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Reverend Siplin is the senior pastor of Beulah Missionary Baptist Church located in Coconut Grove, Florida.

Before joining the ministry, Reverend Siplin proudly served in law enforcement. He is a graduate of the Miami-Dade Police Academy who made history by earning the distinction of becoming the first African American to serve as president of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Three years ago, after joining Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Siplin was ordained a deacon and later became chairman of the church's deacon ministry.

He was called to preach in the year 2000 and, in August 2003, was ordained and installed to serve as the church's

pastor. Under his leadership, Beulah Missionary Baptist has helped the surrounding community confront and combat various challenges. He also has used his experience in law enforcement to help forge and strengthen bonds between residents and local police.

Reverend Siplin has dedicated himself to educating members of the Beulah Missionary Baptist Church community to live spiritual lives so that they can be productive citizens.

He holds a bachelor's and master's of ministry degree from the Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary. In 2014, the seminary awarded him an honorary doctorate degree.

Reverend Siplin is married to the former Zelma Ferguson who is with him here today. Her father, the late Reverend E. R. Ferguson, founded Beulah Missionary Baptist Church in 1954. They are the proud parents of 4 children, 11 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everyone to join me in thanking Reverend Siplin for leading today's opening prayer and to thank him for his outstanding service to the south Florida community.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING PENNSYLVANIA STUDENTS AT CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five high school honors students from Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District chosen to represent the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as delegates at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders.

The following students were selected to attend the event which began Sunday and concluded yesterday in Lowell, Massachusetts:

Donovan Brubaker of Boalsburg; Catherine McQuitty of Rixford; Hannah Mull of Genesee; Mackenzie Wilcox of Duke Center; and

Sarah Zakrzewski of Tyrone.

They were nominated by their teachers or The National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists based on their academic excellence and aspiration to join the medical field. Each of these dedicated students achieved a minimum 3.5 GPA to be nominated for the honors-only program.

The event aims to encourage and guide the top students in our country who hope to become physicians or med-

ical scientists. Chosen delegates at the Congress represent all 50 States including Puerto Rico.

I wish these students the best of luck in their future studies to lead our country's medical profession. Congratulations.

THE SENATE HEALTHCARE BILL

(Ms. DELBENE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, Senate Republicans may have delayed the vote, but make no mistake, they are pushing ahead with a destructive, dangerous healthcare bill that is not just mean, it is immoral. The American people are right to be outraged. I am outraged.

We should be working together to give people better coverage at lower cost. Instead, Senate leaders crafted legislation that leads to lost coverage for 22 million Americans, skyrocketing deductibles, hospital closures in rural communities, and the return of annual and lifetime caps on care.

For families like Colton's in Mill Creek, Washington, who have watched as their 17-year-old son battled high-risk leukemia for 8 years, I can promise you, we are not backing down. Colton is in his fifth remission and still fighting—and so are we.

Healthcare is not a privilege reserved for those fortunate enough to be wealthy or healthy. It is a human right, and it is worth fighting for.

NORTH CAROLINA GROWTH AND FORTUNE BUSINESS RANKINGS

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the tremendous amount of growth in North Carolina, specifically in and around the Second Congressional District.

According to the Census Bureau, North Carolina's population has increased 6.4 percent since 2010. That number increases to over 16 percent for just Wake County which encompasses about half of the Second Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that North Carolina is a fantastic place to live and work, especially for young people wanting to raise a family. In fact, Fortune magazine recently surveyed tens of thousands of millennials nationally about the best places to work, and the results speak for themselves. Two of the top 10 businesses in the United States call Wake County home.

SAS, a global analytics software firm, and Kimley-Horn, a provider of professional services, placed at number two and number eight on the list respectively.

That is great news for the future of North Carolina.