

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION AND ABORTION INSURANCE FULL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2017

Ms. CHENEY, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-5) on the resolution (H. Res. 55) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

A POSITIVE MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Friday marked a positive new era for American families, as Donald J. Trump was sworn in as the 45th President of the United States, with MIKE PENCE serving as the 48th Vice President.

President Donald Trump and Vice President PENCE will work alongside Speaker PAUL RYAN to create jobs, replace ObamaCare with a patient-centered alternative, and promote a national defense so that American families can be protected, policies that were clearly outlined in his inaugural address.

In an op-ed published in Forbes, President Trump's speech was described as "revolutionary." The article went on to detail how "he has defined a new role for the government, for the public, for patriotism, for America first."

President Trump confirmed: "This is your day, your celebration . . . What matters is that your country is ruled by you, the people."

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism. The hateful protesters who assaulted my inaugural guests from New Jersey with water balloons will fail again, as President Trump with Speaker RYAN prevail creating jobs.

THE WOMEN'S MARCH WAS DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, 7,000 in Rhode Island, over 500,000 in Washington, and millions across the country, the Women's March was democracy in action this past Saturday, and it filled me with hope, hope for a better future and hope that we can withstand whatever challenges lie ahead as a nation.

The scene in Rhode Island was incredible, replicated around the world. I joined millions who gathered and

marched to remind us that women's rights are human rights and to support inclusion and equality for all—immigrants, the LGBT community, people of color, people with disabilities, and people of differing faiths and backgrounds. This is the diversity that makes us stronger as a nation, and this is the diversity that President Trump must now represent in a way that is befitting of the honor and dignity of his office.

Together, Mr. Speaker, we must hold him accountable to protect opportunity for all Americans, not just a select few, because it is by working together, treating people with dignity and respect that we move America forward. A rising tide lifts all boats, Mr. Speaker. I believe that the rising tide of engagement and passion that we saw on Saturday will lift all Americans.

ANOTHER BETRAYAL OF ISRAEL BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Friday morning, as the 45th President was about to be sworn in, Obama administration officials packed up their desks and prepared to ride off into the sunset, but not before quietly slipping in a last-minute surprise snub to Israel on their way out of town by shipping off \$221 million to the Palestinian Authority.

Mr. Speaker, this move is sadly not surprising, but wildly inappropriately insulting. The final days of the Obama White House were filled with unapologetic, downright hostility to our friend Israel. Just last month the United States betrayed our friends by allowing the U.N. Security Council to vote attacking Israel.

Now in the shadow of that vote, in a last act of defiance, the old group sent millions of dollars to fill the coffers of Israel's enemy. Thankfully, there is a new man in charge in Washington. President Trump has pledged to support Israel, not betray them. He says he will move the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a move I support if the Israelis support that.

Israel is our greatest friend and should never question where we stand. The Trump White House seems to understand that. Good riddance to those who did not understand it.

And that is just the way it is.

PEELING BACK THE MANY LAYERS OF THE ACA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Trump administration's recently announced action of peeling back the many layers of the Affordable Care Act. For millions of hard-

working Americans who have carried the burden of this law, relief is finally on the way. President Trump's first order of business was to issue an executive order to begin reversing the damages of the Affordable Care Act and start to minimize costs for consumers.

Under the ACA, premiums have skyrocketed while access to health care has dwindled for many Americans, including many of whom reside in my own California's First District. The American people have spoken. They want this disastrous law repealed. Grand claims of 20 to 30 million newly covered are obscured by the fact that over 6 million would rather pay the penalty because they can't afford the Affordable Care Act.

The quick action taken by President Trump will aid our efforts in Congress to both repeal and replace the ACA with something better. The American people have suffered through the nightmare that is ACA. Luckily, they won't have to do so for much longer.

IF PRESIDENT TRUMP WERE A DEMOCRAT

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just think what the media would be saying about President Trump if he were a Democrat:

He has tremendous energy. He campaigned for 18 months, puts in 15-hour days, and has the stamina of a bull elephant like Teddy Roosevelt.

He is courageous, even fearless. Given the amount of hate directed his way, no doubt he constantly receives death threats. But that doesn't curtail his public appearances or seem to worry him in the least.

He has conviction. He practices what he preaches. He doesn't waffle or waver. And he is obviously not deterred by media criticism.

He is a great father. Anytime his son or daughter calls, he picks up the phone. He includes them in his activities. Clearly, he has a strong relationship with his children.

He is off to a fast start. His Cabinet consists of smart, experienced, and successful individuals. He already has taken steps to keep jobs in America, put unnecessary regulations on hold, and improve health care. Consumer confidence is at a 16-year high.

No, the national liberal media won't print that or air it or post it. Better to get your news directly from the President. In fact, it might be the only way to get the unvarnished truth.

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NO AMERICAN TAXPAYER DOLLARS TO FUND ABORTIONS

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. The premise of this bill is clear: American taxpayer dollars will not be used to fund abortion in this country.

I stand here today as a husband, father, grandfather, and, most importantly, as someone who cherishes the God-given right to life. In a country founded on life and liberty, the act of abortion should not be condoned, and it certainly should not be subsidized.

It is fitting that the House consider this legislation this week as we prepare for millions of people to come to Washington, D.C., for the annual March for Life rally where they will give a voice to the unborn. We must work together to move the pro-life message and pro-life policies forward to protect those who cannot yet speak for themselves.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, and stand up for the principles of life and liberty.

AMERICA IS A COUNTRY FOR ALL PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, having worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and been engaged with many of the foot soldiers that studied under Dr. Martin Luther King, I love and cherish nonviolent protests and the rights for people to petition.

I hold up a beautiful and powerful statement by way of a picture, powerful together, as thousands marched across the Nation, upwards of 1 million and maybe even more. I am particularly proud of those in Houston, Texas, and particularly “Across Texas, marchers ‘just can’t be silent anymore.’”

Congratulations to those who marched safely, securely, and non-violently. Congratulations to the Houston organizers. Yes, it is your right to fight against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act, the ignoring of the funding of access to women’s health care. It is your right to fight for educational opportunity. It is your right to recognize that we have rights as women, but we have rights as Americans; and it is your right to seek a nation that will be representative of all of the people, no matter where they come from, what their religious background is, what regions they live for.

It is beyond the wonderful Midwest that the Nation needs to be represented. It is in the far corners of the east and the north, yes, down in Houston, Texas, far to the west. We cannot isolate and say we won with few votes from this region. America is a country for all people, and I look forward to this Congress and this White House representing all of us.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO GOVERNING BOARD OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana). The Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment,

pursuant to section 4(c) of House Resolution 5, 115th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following individuals to serve as the Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

Nominated by the Speaker after consultation with the minority leader:

Mr. Richard Norman “Doc” Hastings, Washington, Chairman

Mr. James M. Eagan, III, Colorado

Ms. Allison R. Hayward, Virginia

Ms. Judy Biggert, Illinois, alternate

Nominated by the minority leader after consultation with the Speaker:

Mr. David Skaggs, Colorado, Co-Chairman

Brigadier General (retired) Belinda Pinckney, Virginia

Ms. Karan English, Arizona

Mr. Mike Barnes, Maryland, alternate

FIXING OUR NATION’S HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, tonight, what I would like to do is engage the American people on several subjects. I will be speaking for quite a bit of time tonight on the health care issue facing America.

Mr. Speaker, before I get there, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), a very dear friend of mine.

WINDSWEPT PLAINS OF NEBRASKA

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank the chairman for yielding, but, more importantly, for his extraordinarily hard work as chairman of the Rules Committee. I don’t think a lot of people are aware just how critical his job is in shepherding and guiding order in our institution here. So I am grateful for his hard work, most grateful for his friendship, and very grateful for his leadership. I thank him so much for the time.

Mr. Speaker, when Presidents give their inaugural addresses, we are very accustomed to lofty narratives, to visionary ideals, and to sweeping language. But last Friday, President Trump spoke very differently. The only sweeping thing in the President’s speech was his reference to the windswept plains of Nebraska. Of course, when I heard that, I perked up.

President Trump’s speech was a striking and direct call for a new, healthy nationalism. He spoke to the people, about the people, and for the people. A certain awkwardness marked the beginning of his speech, not only because of the initial confrontational style from the outset, but it also began to rain as the President started, creating a bit of an uncomfortable moment. But then the rain suddenly stopped and his speech gained momentum. He discussed, in hard terms, some

of the stark realities we are facing and how they might be resolved for our country.

Mr. Speaker, we all know this, that defining problems is an easy task, but finding solutions is much harder. While President Trump’s speech lacked specifics in that regard, nonetheless, there was extraordinary power in the attempt to articulate an America that has been lost to globalized supply-side elitism, an America that has been lost to drugs and crime, and an America that has systems that no longer seem to serve all persons. It just seems that no matter how hard individuals work, they just can’t get ahead.

Mr. Speaker, our President’s speech was an authoritative call for a new national unity, particularly for those forgotten. The idea that America can do better, that we must do better, and that we will do better for everyone was clearly conveyed by President Trump.

I recognize the tone of this speech will not have universal appeal. It was to the point, direct, and firm. It was not a delicate, textured speech. But the President was clear when he declared: “The American carnage stops right here and stops right now.”

Mr. Speaker, we are witnessing a renewed and important and essential focus on reviving America’s economy. The multinational corporations of this world are on notice: they cannot play both sides of the balance sheet, being for us and against us at the same time, and the benefits of exchange will have to be fair for all. Frankly, I believe this creates possibilities, possibilities for authentic relationships with peoples around the world rather than a transactional one. If this objective can be achieved, it will be constructive indeed. A healthy American nationalism will lead to properly ordered international engagement—for our benefit and the benefit of others.

Mr. Speaker, when the President spoke before the entirety of our government, he also spoke before the House of Representatives. The President’s authoritative style, communicating the desire to devolve power from Washington as well as Wall Street, interestingly repositions Congress to its appropriate role in governing society through the power of the people.

Mr. Speaker, it is statistically shown that the majority of Americans believe that it is the job of Congress to do whatever the President says. This is not true. Congress is an independent, coequal branch of government that makes the law, which is interpreted by the judiciary and enforced by the President. But across Democratic and across Republican executive administrations more and more power has been taken by the executive and has been ceded by Congress. This balance of power, this necessary balance of power, this original idea of the balance of power, has been out of balance for 100 years, and perhaps now a realignment begins.