

single document to back up their accusation.

Even as the Ethiopian Government has admitted to arresting 28,000 people, there is reason to believe the number is closer to 80,000.

We must condemn violence against peaceful protestors, unlawful arrests, inhumane treatment, and the withholding of key human rights.

The Government of Ethiopia has an obligation to care for all its people, including the Oromo. As the United States, we should stand with the people of Ethiopia and help the Ethiopian Government return to the path of peace and democracy.

MAX PAGE SAYS CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE NEEDS A BIPARTISAN SOLUTION

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, with all the political rhetoric, the finger-pointing, and the many versions of TrumpCare, hyperpartisan politicians often forget what this debate is all about.

It is about people, about relieving a person's pain and suffering, about giving a person a chance to live a healthy and happy life. It is about Max Page. Maybe you will remember him. Max was the mini Darth Vader from a Super Bowl commercial in 2011 who captured our hearts.

Max was born with tetralogy of Fallot, a rare and deadly congenital heart defect. Throughout his 12 years, Max has had more than 10 heart surgeries under the loving care at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. He lives every day with a pacemaker and an artificial pulmonary valve. Open heart surgeries are complex and very serious surgeries. They are tough on patients, with often a long recovery, and grueling for the family.

Max stopped by my office a few days ago to talk about his experience, and he told me: "I am going to have my condition all my life. I am going to have surgery as a constant commotion on my life. I just want to be covered. I don't want to have to worry about insurance and how I am going to pay these bills. I just want to focus on keeping myself healthy and not having to sacrifice everything for a surgery."

Max wants to play baseball. He loves Harry Potter, and he dreams of being an actor. Earlier this year, Max was in the hospital for treatments for an entire month. His mom, Jennifer, described how they were feeling bummed one day after such a long and arduous hospital stay. They decided to take a walk, and on their walk they met a boy Max's age named Will. Will is still in the hospital today. He has been there 9 months waiting desperately for a heart transplant.

Max told me how Will has spent every holiday and even his birthday in the hospital this year. Max wanted to do something for Will, so they had

these bracelets made. He named them "Will Power." They have Max's favorite verse on them. Max and Will connected. They developed a bond bound by compassion. Their hope for a normal life gave them strength and friendship, and Max promised Will he would bring the bracelets to Congress when they came.

Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Max and Will, that is my favorite verse, too.

Max is fighting to protect other kids like him and Will, people with a pre-existing illness, from losing coverage and having to pay more from facing a lifetime path on coverage.

He came to tell the stories of so many other children he knows from his many hospital visits. His message is simple: "Children's healthcare needs a bipartisan solution."

Max and Will and all the friends they have made in the hospital aren't rooting for Democrats or Republicans. They are fighting for their life and rooting for each other. They are children who want to get healthy, who want to stay healthy and care for one another.

We can all learn from Max's and Will's selfless courage to help others. Stop the hyperpartisan fight to score political points and start fostering a bond through compassion.

Let's find a way to protect healthcare for Max and Will. In the midst of this healthcare fight, we should take a moment to pause and remember that goal. Let's be like Max and think of others as we come together to find a bipartisan solution to address what isn't working, and remember Max's message: Children's healthcare, all healthcare, must and should be a bipartisan issue.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF PAMELA TODD MAY

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a dear friend and advocate for eastern Kentuckians, Pamela Todd May.

Although her life tragically ended too soon, she lived with endless compassion for those in need, and abounding devotion to our region, the Pikeville Medical Center, the University of Kentucky, her husband, Walter May, her children, and all her family and friends.

Pam May lived with consummate elegance, always joyous in service, and loyal in deed. She faithfully dedicated more than three decades of service to the Pikeville Medical Center as a steadfast advocate for expanded access to quality healthcare in Kentucky's rural Appalachian region.

As founder of one of the most respected law firms in Kentucky, Pam was as trustworthy defender for the

people of eastern Kentucky and a voice for those who otherwise may not be heard.

One of the most recent examples of her endless and selfless service was her prompt action to help hundreds of individuals obtain medical records for Social Security hearings and honorable representation in the wake of emergency redetermination hearings by the Social Security Administration. She partnered with local attorneys and orchestrated hope for hundreds of families desperate for assistance while navigating through Federal hearings. Pam was a thoughtful leader you could rely on to stay steps ahead of everyone else.

My wife, Cynthia, and I mourn the loss of our treasured friend, yet we rejoice in the legacy of justice and compassion that she leaves behind.

Those of us who were blessed to know Pam must carry on her banner of hope and love for the people of our region. Mr. Speaker, eastern Kentucky is a better place because Pam May lived. If we could replicate her passion and drive, our future would undoubtedly be much brighter in the hills of Appalachia.

Mr. Speaker, Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt condolences to our friend and confidant, Walter May, as well as Pam's mother, children, and extended family and friends who were honored to know and love her.

THE GOP'S FAILURE TO GOVERN

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, it is now 7 months since the start of the 115th Congress, and 6 months since Republicans have controlled all the levers of power of our government, and all we have seen are broken promises.

Donald Trump and our Republican colleagues in Congress ran on a platform that included healthcare for everyone, massive investments in infrastructure, tax reform, and a dramatic increase in jobs.

On all four of these, there has been zero progress, zero legislation sent to the President, and zero effort to work with Democrats to achieve any of those objectives.

Donald Trump promised voters that he would be "the greatest job President that God ever created."

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Yet neither he nor the Republican congressional leadership have put forward a comprehensive jobs bill. Instead, he and his Republican allies in the Congress have proposed budgets that would slash investments in education, infrastructure, and research, all areas that directly help our economy create jobs.

In fact, jobs that the President claimed to have saved are going overseas. Forecasters are now predicting slower economic growth, and manufacturing average weekly earnings have

only grown half as fast as earnings across the private sector as a whole over the past 6 months.

When it comes to healthcare, it hasn't just been the broken promise of insurance for everyone. It has been a nonstop roller coaster of legislative proposals, all of which would strip coverage away from tens of millions of Americans, raise costs, and deny coverage for those with preexisting conditions.

On tax reform, all we have seen is a one-page outline and a budget proposal with reconciliation instructions setting up a process for jamming a partisan tax reform bill through Congress. That is a nonstarter, because to be successful any tax reform legislation must be bipartisan, as was the 1986 tax reform under President Reagan and Speaker O'Neill.

To top it all off, we considered and are considering this week an appropriations minibus without even having had a budget on this floor some 88 days after it was due. The Republicans promised regular order. In fact, they are pursuing no order. Republicans haven't even bothered to pass a budget, which is what we are supposed to do in the House before moving to appropriations.

So, Mr. Speaker, at the 6-month mark, we have only seen gridlock, no progress, chaos, and broken promises. Even some Republican Members—and perhaps many Republican Members—are growing as frustrated as the American people their party has failed.

Representative STEVE WOMACK from Arkansas said late last month that: "We'd better get our act together. We're not governing right now. We are stuck."

And Representative TOM REED of New York said: "The fact that we are not getting to these issues—healthcare, budget, tax reform—is frustrating. We came here to move the needle."

So what I am saying has been said by my Republican colleagues as well. Perhaps Representative TOM MASSIE put it most succinctly when he tweeted about his Republican colleagues: "They confuse activity with progress."

Republicans, Mr. Speaker, have failed to address the challenges facing the American people, and they have done nothing to improve the lives of those working hard to make it in America.

We should be considering legislation to create jobs and grow the economy. We should be working to improve and strengthen the Affordable Care Act, not replace it. That would be consistent with some three-quarters of Americans who believe that is what we ought to be doing. We should be working in a bipartisan way to reform our Tax Code and promote competitiveness for our American businesses that are competing in world markets.

Growth, job creation, as well as fiscal sustainability, that is what we should be seeking in a tax bill. We should be investing in infrastructure that lures

jobs back home from overseas. And, Mr. Speaker, we should be returning to regular order and an open process that Republicans have abandoned to the detriment of legislation and to our country. There have been more closed rules in this 7 months than have occurred in my 36 years in the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the American people need a better deal, a better deal than they have gotten over the last 7 months. Seven months into this Congress, it is clear that House Republicans are not on the side of working people. In the words of New York Times columnist David Brooks, one of the most conservative columnists at The New York Times, last week he said this: "Republicans offer nothing but negativity, detachment, absence, and an ax."

Democrats, on the other hand, are offering the American people, as I said, a better deal, one focused on helping all of our people—*Make It In America*—better jobs, better wages, and, yes, a better future. It is what Democrats have always done when Democrats have been entrusted to lead. There is a history, a track record to back it up.

Mr. Speaker, I want to show my colleagues that rhetoric is cheap—or talk is cheap, as we say—but performance is really what we ought to look to. I want to bring some charts here to the attention of our colleagues—and, indeed, to the American people as well—to what Democrats have always done.

This chart, number one, shows that Democrats perform better on economic growth. Now, that is easy to say, but this graph shows exactly from Truman to Obama, the blue. You can see under Eisenhower, economic growth was about a third, or maybe 40 percent. Kennedy-Johnson and Johnson much greater than Nixon and Nixon-Ford. Carter, greater than either Nixon or Nixon-Ford. And Carter, to the surprise of many, had just about the same GDP growth as Reagan, of which my Republican friends proudly talk. And then what happened under Bush I? Down. Then what happened under Clinton? Up, GDP growth. Under Bush II, down; under Obama, up.

That is not campaign rhetoric. Those are the statistics that show that the economy has performed better under Democrats.

Now, Democrats perform better on the stock market, the stock market whom, Mr. Trump, likes to point to today. It is doing well. Why? Because the Obama economy, as you just saw, was doing well and the expectations were good.

If you look at this chart, things were better on the stock market under the Democrats. Truman, greater growth in the stock market, Eisenhower less. Kennedy-Johnson, Johnson up; Nixon down. Nixon-Ford—Nixon-Ford had negative growth in the stock market, and then Carter, growth. And, yes, Reagan and Bush I had growth, but guess what. Then Clinton had better

growth. And then guess what. Bush II, again, like Nixon-Ford, negative growth in the stock market.

What did that mean? That meant 401(k)s were worth less for retired people, and their security was less secure because the stock market went in the tank. And then what happened under Obama? The stock market went up.

Now, lastly, I wanted to show this statistic. And this is a stark statistic because it shows that, under Democratic Presidents, every segment, every wage level in America saw appreciation. Now, this only goes back to 1967.

So if we go to the lowest quintile, it went up higher under Democrats than Republicans in every quintile. And guess what. The highest quintile did better under Democrats, just as the lower quintile did better. But what you see is everybody did better. The only negative, of course, was under Republicans, where the second quintile went down over their years in office.

So if you compare all of these, Mr. Speaker, it is not campaign rhetoric. It is not rhetoric on this floor, but it is economic facts, economic statistics. Economic reports show that, when we promised a better deal, we delivered a better deal.

So as we look back on the past 6 months of Republicans' broken promises and failures to govern, let's remember there is, indeed, a better deal to be had. Democrats are ready to work with our Republican colleagues and with the administration to make progress.

Mr. Speaker, I have been here 36 years, and one of the things I am proudest of, my Republican colleagues, many of them say: "HOYER will work with us in a way to compromise and make progress for our country." But if our Republican colleagues continue to be unwilling to work in a bipartisan way, we are going to offer a clear and proven alternative—a proven alternative.

I hope my Republican colleagues will return from the August district work period ready to ensure that the American people get a better deal and work with us constructively to get them that better deal.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AMERICAN FARMER

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, with the fall season fast approaching, Bucks County's robust agricultural community is in full swing with the impending harvests, summer fairs, community projects, and recognition of the important work of the American farm family.

In a few weeks, Bucks County will celebrate their 69th annual Middletown Grange Fair. From Wednesday, August 16, through Sunday, August 20, attendees from across our community