

Before I dive into the details of how ObamaCare is denying people in the State of Iowa the ability to get health insurance, I want to share a story about a bridge in the State of Washington.

This bridge is depicted right here. This is the collapse of that bridge. The bridge is called Tacoma Narrows Bridge. It was built in 1940. It was the world's third largest suspension bridge. It was considered a state-of-the-art masterpiece of 20th-century engineering, but the bridge was set to fail from the very beginning.

On July 1, 1940, the \$6 million bridge opened to traffic. Just 5 months later, on November 7, 1940, the bridge collapsed. What caused the massive steel and concrete structure to twist, turn, and drop nearly 200 feet into Puget Sound? Importantly, there was a key foreshadowing clue. The bridge was nicknamed "Galloping Gertie" for its dancing, swaying bridge deck. On most days, it resembled a roller coaster rolling in the wind. But on the morning of November 7, Gertie's dance became twisted in a howling 40-mile-an-hour wind. Dramatic footage shown here shows tons of concrete and steel cables snapping like fishing lines before its collapse. Gertie essentially self-destructed due to design flaws that created sheer havoc in those high winds.

Like ObamaCare, the Tacoma Narrows Bridge wasn't built to last, and like Galloping Gertie, ObamaCare is on a self-destruction course with destiny. Galloping Gertie collapsed by a flawed design that was unable to withstand high winds, and every day that goes by without a bipartisan solution to fix the flaws, ObamaCare is moving the American people closer to a calamity.

Sooner rather than later, ObamaCare will become its own bridge to nowhere, with no insurance plans on the exchanges. Millions of Americans will be left twisting high and dry. The warning signs can no longer be ignored. First, many health insurers are bailing. The individual market is near collapse.

Just last week, another insurance company, Aetna, announced it will quit the remaining two States it planned to sell plans in under ObamaCare. That means in 2018, Aetna will sell zero plans on the individual market exchanges. Just a year ago, in 2016, Aetna participated in the individual markets in 778 counties across the country. In 2017, that number fell to 242. In 2018, that number will be zero.

We ought to repeat this story because everybody is talking about what the House health care bill might do to people's health insurance and their healthcare. The fact is that people can't buy health insurance, or if they buy it, the deductibles are so high they can't afford it. That is the story we ought to be telling at least with equal weight with the stories given by people who are talking about not wanting to do anything with healthcare.

My home State has been hit particularly hard by insurers pulling out of

the individual market. In 2016, UnitedHealth Group announced it would leave Iowa the following year. Last month, Aetna and Wellmark announced they would be pulling out of the individual market in Iowa. This leaves 94 of our 99 counties in Iowa with one choice for health insurance on the individual market.

A constituent wrote to me following the news of their departure.

My son recently turned 26 years old and is ineligible to remain on my insurance; therefore, he signed up for his own policy through Wellmark. My son farms with my husband, so while my husband has coverage through me, my son may soon be facing the fact that he will not be able to buy health insurance. My son, a true "beginning farmer," will be forced to leave our farming operation and seek employment solely for the purpose of health care coverage.

If Congress doesn't act, the individual market may come crashing down, just like the Tacoma Narrows bridge. We simply can't ignore another warning sign. Healthier, younger people are choosing the off-ramp. The toll to join ObamaCare is turning out to be unaffordable for them. ObamaCare is unsustainable.

Remarkably, instead of joining us to fix this broken bridge, the other side wants to leave Americans twisting in the wind. In my home State, 70,000 Iowans are enrolled in the individual exchanges, and the last carrier left, Medica, is on the fence about its plans for 2018. That is why I told Senator SCHUMER to listen to our stories. The people in 94 of Iowa's 99 counties may not even be able to buy insurance on the exchange.

The day has come. It is time to cross the bridge. It is time to repeal and replace ObamaCare before it finishes its collapse.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to law enforcement officers from Arkansas and all across the country who are called to serve and to protect. I am grateful for their dedication and commitment because it takes a very special person to put his life on the line every day to protect our communities.

Arkansans are proud of the law enforcement history in our State. In my hometown of Fort Smith, AR, the U.S. Marshals Service has a deep-rooted history that has helped shape our Nation's westward expansion. Today, many people in the area find their family roots traced back to a U.S. Marshal. As home to the future U.S. Marshals Museum, the community and the State have rallied around this proud heritage. The tradition of courageous public service is carried on today by the men and women who keep communities across the country safe 24 hours a day.

This week, members from law enforcement agencies from around the Nation will join together in Washington to honor their fallen brothers

and sisters who have died in the line of duty. May 15 marks Peace Officers Memorial Day, and this week is recognized as National Police Week. We take this opportunity to honor the men and women who have died in the line of duty by adding their names to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

This year, nearly 400 names will be added to the memorial, including these Arkansans: Robert Barker, a patrolman for the McCrory Police Department, who died while serving the people of Woodruff County on September 15, 2016; Corporal Bill Cooper, of the Sebastian County Sheriff's Office, who gave his life in the line of duty on August 10, 2016; and Corrections Officer Lisa Mauldin, who died in service to the community on December 18, 2016.

These Arkansans represent the selfless sacrifice that our law enforcement personnel embody. It is the truest testament to the life that they chose—to serve their communities.

I am sad to say that the name of another Arkansas law enforcement officer will be carved into the memorial. Yell County Sheriff's Deputy Kevin Mainhart was killed in the line of duty last week. He was a veteran officer with more than 20 years of serving and protecting Arkansas communities. I offer my condolences and my gratitude to his family and friends and the law enforcement community as they cope with this unspeakable tragedy.

Our law enforcement officers are true heroes. We recognize, not only during this week but all year long, the devotion of the 900,000 law enforcement officers whose service each and every day makes our communities safer.

I was proud to recognize the service and sacrifice of these first responders and show my support for their commitment to our safety during a tour of Arkansas last year that we called Every Second Counts. First responders invest so much of their lives in public service that one must take the opportunity to commend them for their tireless efforts and willingness to serve in a crisis at a moment's notice.

The role of law enforcement is changing. These men and women perform a variety of roles from responding to emergencies to maintaining public safety and promoting safety services and programs. In Arkansas, we are blessed to have the Criminal Justice Institute, which is a part of the University of Arkansas System. It is a resource to police departments and sheriffs' offices that provides them with updated training and information as they adapt to provide more services to their communities.

As a member of the Senate Law Enforcement Caucus, I am deeply committed to supporting the Criminal Justice Institute and advocating for the policies and resources that law enforcement agencies need to successfully carry out their missions, as well as honoring those lives that are tragically cut short while in the line of duty.

That is why I am proud to cosponsor the Honoring Hometown Heroes Act, which allows Governors to order the American flag to fly at half-staff in recognition of the sacrifice of the first responders who make the ultimate sacrifice. The House of Representatives passed similar legislation earlier this month, and I am hopeful that it will also have the support of this Chamber.

I thank the law enforcement officers in Arkansas and across the country who dedicate their lives to protecting our children and communities and seek to bring criminals to justice. These heroes come to our rescue when we need help, and I am committed to continuing to advocate for these officers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The majority whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, this is National Police Week—a time each year when we remember and honor those who have fallen in the line of duty.

There are more than 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in our country, and tragically every year dozens lose their lives defending our communities and our freedoms.

This year, as part of National Police Week, I am so thankful that Javier Vega, Jr., one of Texas's own, was honored at the National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial over the weekend, right here in Washington, DC. Just a few hours ago, I had the honor of meeting his family—his wife, his children, and his parents—along with several of his friends whom he served alongside in the U.S. Border Patrol.

They know, all too well, the high cost paid by our law enforcement officers who put themselves at risk every day. Javier—who was known by his close family and friends as Harvey—grew up in La Feria, TX, a small town in South Texas. He was a man known for putting others before himself—someone who would always serve rather than be served.

That desire turned first into a military career. He enlisted in the Marine Corps right out of high school, and later he put himself through college. Then he decided he hadn't done all he wanted to do in public service so he joined the Border Patrol, and just like everything else he pursued in life, he dedicated himself to tirelessly serving others and serving his country.

Sadly, that service was cut short when he and his family, while out on a fishing trip on a Sunday afternoon, were ambushed by two men who tried to rob them. The clash turned violent. Javier immediately thought of protecting others before himself so he jumped into action to fend off the attackers and defend his family.

Tragically, he was killed by the two men—illegal immigrant criminals who had been reportedly deported but managed repeatedly to find their way back into the country, even after committing serious crimes. What a testament to the great need we have to strength-

en our border security and justice system to keep us all safe.

Now, there is no denying that Javier Vega, Jr., was taken from his family, his community, and from all of us far too soon. So while we consider the fallen this week, like Javier, and their lives of service, I hope we can also take time to consider how we can better support and serve those who have promised to defend us to the point of risking their very lives.

As we learn from the story of Javier, one obvious way we can do that is by making sure our Federal laws are fully enforced to protect our communities from those who would take advantage of our generosity and commit violent crimes, even though they are not in the country legally.

We have a chance to do more for our law enforcement officers, and we should always look for ways to do right by them. Now isn't the time to look the other way or to pretend that real problems facing our Nation and our law enforcement community will simply go away. So during this year's National Police Week, I look forward to playing my part to put forward policies that better support their mission to defend and protect communities all across the country.

Let me thank the family of Javier Vega, Jr.—particularly his wife, his children, and his parents who are here with us today—for letting me share his story and honor his service.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize National Police Week and the service and sacrifice of our country's law enforcement officers. As past Governor of the State of West Virginia, I worked with West Virginia State Police very often and saw firsthand their dedication to the rule of law and commitment to keeping West Virginians safe.

Last year, the State of West Virginia lost one of our own, West Virginia State Police first sergeant Joseph Portaro. Joseph was from Clarksburg and joined the State police in 1998 and served in Kingwood. In 2008, he was assigned staff officer at the academy and was then promoted to deputy director of training. Joseph was a veteran of the West Virginia Army National Guard and served in the West Virginia State Police for 17 years.

Although the loss of Joseph will never heal, I know I join all West Virginians and the entire law enforcement community in praying for Joseph's family and friends.

National Police Week acknowledges the service and sacrifice of our coun-

try's law enforcement officers and the safety and protection they provide our communities. Madam President, I know you do too. I go to a lot of schools and talk to the children. I want them to understand that anytime they see a person in uniform, whether it be a policeman, fireman, or EMT, these are people willing to get in front of harm's way for their safety and sacrifice themselves for them. When you have a police officer willing to take a bullet for you, that is a pretty special person. They don't do it for the pay. I think we all know that. They are dedicated and committed to the well-being and safety of every American. We are very lucky to have them in our respective States of Iowa and West Virginia.

This week, we must remember Joseph and the other 139 law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2016 and continue to support their families as they continue to mourn their loss. We can never bring back the person who basically sacrificed for all of us, but we can make sure we never forget their families, and I hope we all do that.

This is a special week and a special day for these people we recognize. One hundred and thirty-nine people gave their lives for us. The least we can do is make sure that not only do we remember them but that we go beyond that in order to support the members of the family, their children who need a father or mother they might not have now, who need the nurturing and the financial support for their education so they can continue to grow to be good, healthy, productive adults. I hope we never forget.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I rise today in strong support of Jeffrey Rosen to be the Deputy Secretary of Transportation. It is my understanding that later this evening we will have a vote on that nomination. It will be the first of a couple of votes.

I would just ask my colleagues on the Democratic side and on the Republican side to look carefully at his qualifications and to be in a position to support this good public servant to be the new deputy at Transportation.

I recall that this body overwhelmingly supported Elaine Chao to be the Secretary of Transportation. She is doing a terrific job, in my view. She needs help, and she needs a deputy in place. Jeff has gone through the proper process. We have had hearings, and he has been voted on in committee. It is time to get him there to help Secretary Chao to be able to have her team in place and accomplish the goals that so many of us share.

Jeffrey is a graduate of Northwestern University and Harvard Law School. Here in DC, where there are lots of lawyers, he is one of the most respected ones. He has 30 years of experience handling very complicated, high-stakes cases. He has litigated in more than 20 States. He has been in just about every setting imaginable: jury trials, bench trials, arbitrations, appellate arguments—on every topic—contracts, antitrust, securities, business torts, enforcement actions, product liability, and class actions. You name it, and he has been involved.

He has a lot of experience. Maybe particularly relevant to this job at Transportation, in 2003 he was unanimously confirmed by this body to serve as the Chief Legal Officer at the Department of Transportation. There he supervised more than 400 lawyers at the Department of Transportation. As the top lawyer there, he wasn't afraid to roll up his sleeves and get involved in lots of issues, including policy issues. I think the kind of experience he gained there will make him very well qualified to serve now as Deputy Secretary of that same agency.

He did such a good job that in 2006 I reached out to him and asked him to join my team at the Office of Management and Budget. I wanted somebody who was a good lawyer but also someone who could manage well and give me good advice, and Jeffrey Rosen was that person. I recruited Jeff to serve as general counsel and senior policy advisor at OMB. In that role, he was always vigilant about the use of taxpayer dollars, a guy who understands those hard-earned dollars need to be stewarded properly. He was someone who focused on management in the Department. He understood the need for us to ensure that taxpayers are getting the best bang for the buck, and, finally, maybe most important, he gave me good advice. He was insightful but also honest. I think that kind of candid advice is exactly what every Department Secretary or leader would want, and that is what he will provide should he become Deputy Secretary.

Since that time, I have stayed up with Jeff. He has continued to give me good advice and counsel. He is a guy who is well regarded in the legal community here in town and someone who understands how the Department of Transportation works and what is needed to ensure that it will be successful.

One thing that Jeff and I have in common is we married way over our heads. Kathleen is an Ohioan. She has the Ohio commonsense that makes Jeff, in my view, an even better public servant. They have three amazing kids—Anne, Sally, and James—and for all of Jeff's personal and professional accomplishments, he would be the first to say that his greatest pride is in his family—and rightly so, by the way.

In my view, Jeff has the judgment, he certainly has the experience, he has the skills, and he has the right apti-

tude to be the Deputy Secretary of Transportation. He is needed now, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the cloture motion today on his nomination and in favor of his nomination to ensure we can get him in place to help move the Department of Transportation forward.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I rise to honor and recognize the folks who are first to respond when crisis strikes—the folks who patrol our streets, keep our families safe, and are willing to enter harm's way on a daily basis.

I rise today to honor our police officers in Montana and every corner of the country. Police officers answer a call to duty to protect and defend our communities. While this Nation's police forces are on patrol, it is critical that the folks in this body are doing everything we can to keep them safe on the job and to honor their service.

To recognize National Police Week, I have partnered with Senators BOOZMAN, GARDNER, MORAN, UDALL, BLUMENTHAL, and CARPER to introduce the bipartisan Honoring Hometown Heroes Act. Our bill will provide the Governor of each State the ability to fly the American flag at half-staff to honor a police officer or any first responder who dies in the line of duty. This bill will treat our fallen responders with the respect they deserve.

In the past, Republicans and Democrats have worked together to strengthen resources for local police officers, and we have ensured that our first responders have access to critical healthcare services, but this bill is a bit different. This bill makes sure that our police officers and their families receive the recognition they deserve for their selfless service to their communities. When tragedy strikes, I think it is important the entire State takes a moment to honor that police officer who was lost while serving others.

This bipartisan bill has the support of police officers and first responders from across the country—from the Fraternal Order of Police, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the International Association of Firefighters, just to name a few.

The Honoring Hometown Heroes Act will give our fallen first responders the honor they so much deserve, but for the police officers we have already lost, it is too late. Today is Peace Officers Memorial Day. Across the country, the names of fallen officers will be carved

into granite, and their photos will be hung in stations for all to see. Yet these folks and their families did not have the honor of seeing their entire States mourn alongside them because flags were never flown at half-staff.

To ensure that these folks get the recognition they deserve, today I enshrine in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of 128 law enforcement officials who have died in the line of duty. They have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their neighbors and keeping our communities safe. I ask unanimous consent that their names be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Anaconda Police Dept.: Lieutenant Timothy Sullivan, 2/10/1985; Assistant Chief of Police Edwin E. Stuart, 6/6/1939; and Policeman Patrick Dougherty, 6/3/1904.

Beaverhead County Sheriff's Dept.: Sheriff Raymond Lamar Davis, 8/9/1980 and Sheriff Cyrus King Wyman, 4/21/1920.

Big Horn County Sheriff's Dept.: Deputy Sheriff Janet Louise Rogers, 6/14/1990 and Sheriff Robert Peter Gilmore, 10/19/1926.

Billings Police Dept.: Detective Alexander Finalyson Mavity, 2/14/1989; Patrolman Arthur D. Pettit, 12/21/1935; Policeman Enos Nelson, 12/16/1917; and Sergeant Robert T. Hannah, 7/2/1904.

Blaine County Sheriff's Office: Undersheriff Patrick Alan Pyette, 12/14/2011 and Deputy Sheriff Joshua Thomas Rutherford, 5/29/2003.

Butte Police Dept.: Policeman Nicholas Aleksich, 2/28/1937; Policeman Thomas J. O'Neill, 12/25/1935; Chief of Police Jeremiah Joseph Murphy, 9/20/1935; Police Officer Joseph E. Sage, 4/8/1925; Policeman Bart J. McCarthy, 7/22/1916; Policeman James H. Pace, 7/27/1915; Policeman Ivan W. Lincoln, 3/30/1915; Policeman Joseph A. Freshman, 9/23/1906; Policeman Fred A. Parlin, 3/18/1896; Policeman Frederick Kranbeck, 1/15/1895; Policeman Dennis W. Daly, 7/4/1894; and Policeman William F. Jordan, 6/24/1892.

Cascade County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Sheriff Joseph James Dunn, 8/14/2014 and Chief Deputy Sheriff Herbert Locke, 12/11/1928.

Columbia Falls Police Dept.: Town Marshal Leslie A. Green, 10/2/1937 and Town Marshal Jacob Neitzling, 4/19/1931.

Columbus Police Dept.: Town Marshal Charles Davidson, 7/28/1912.

Custer County Sheriff's Dept.: Deputy Sheriff H. M. "Muggins" Taylor, 10/1/1882.

Dawson County Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Dominick Cavanaugh, 12/23/1898.

Denton Constable's Office: Constable A. B. Cheney, 10/28/1913.

Dillon Police Dept.: Patrolman Stephen Carl Shaffer, 2/14/1981.

East Helena Police Dept.: Patrolman Clifford Wayne Haskin, 9/14/1985.

Fairview Police Dept.: Chief of Police Orville Edwin Sharbono, 3/17/1990.

Fallon County Sheriff's Dept.: Sheriff William Homes, 8/7/1949.

Gallatin County Sheriff's Dept.: Deputy Sheriff Frank C. Curtice, 10/10/1919; Deputy Sheriff Pomeroy Vrelland, 10/10/1919; Special Deputy Sheriff Jack Allen, 1/24/1897; and Sheriff Silas Ralston, 9/5/1878.

Glendive Police Dept.: Policeman Frank Cavanagh, 7/3/1946.

Golden Valley County Sheriff's Dept.: Undersheriff Arthur "Buzz" Burford, 4/14/1938 and Sheriff Jesse Garfield, 12/18/1920.

Great Falls Police Dept.: Senior Officer Shane Russell Chadwick, 9/7/1994; Lieutenant