

Americans with preexisting conditions that depend on the workings of the Affordable Care Act to keep covered so that they don't have to file for bankruptcy when they get sick, so that they can move from job to job without worrying about their healthcare coverage. Let's not do this again.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues here in the House to reject the idea that the ACA is unconstitutional.

HEALTH CENTERS PLAY AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN THE U.S.

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the essential role community health centers play in neighborhoods throughout the Nation.

America's health centers serve 28 million patients who have the greatest difficulty accessing healthcare. This includes 24.9 million low-income patients; 3.5 million patients in or near public housing; 1.4 million homeless patients; nearly 1 million patients who work in agriculture; and 6.2 million uninsured patients.

Madam Speaker, community health centers are located in areas of high need and are open to everyone, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

Congress recently made historic investments to the Health Center Program, which increased access, expanded services, and improved quality.

Health centers also play an important role in rural America where the need is great, but services are often scarce.

And, each year, community health centers generate approximately \$54 billion in economic activity and save the healthcare system an estimated \$24 billion within our most underserved communities.

Madam Speaker, we must ensure that all Americans receive the services they need, regardless of where they live, and community health centers do that.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, climate change is not a distant threat; it is reality. In the Pacific Northwest, our families and communities are facing acidic oceans; unhealthy, smoky air; decreased snowpack; droughts; and extreme weather patterns.

Recent reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the U.S. Global Change Research Program make clear: human activity is contributing to climate change. The science supporting these reports is convincing and alarming, but there is hope. We have the opportunity and, in fact, the imperative to take action

that will protect our planet and grow our economy.

I am honored to serve on the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, and I will work with my colleagues to reduce emissions, to transition to 100 percent clean energy, to create good-paying jobs, rebuild our Nation's infrastructure in a sustainable and resilient manner, invest in clean and efficient transportation systems, and support frontline communities, particularly communities of color and low-income communities, that have often faced a disproportionate share of the burden of our past inaction.

The future of our planet and the health of our communities depend on the actions we take today. For our children, our grandchildren, and future generations to come, let's not wait.

AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE TRANSPARENCY

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, over the past few weeks, I have released the transcripts of the interviews from Peter Strzok, Bruce Ohr, and Lisa Page from the Judiciary Committee's investigation into apparent wrongdoing at the FBI and DOJ. I have said I would make additional transcripts from the investigation public, and I am here today to keep that promise.

As I stated then, our interview transcripts were pertinent to congressional investigation. But the 115th Congress ended, the investigation was closed, and copies were shared with certain Members of Congress.

Madam Speaker, I request that the link www.dougcollins.house.gov/papadopoulos be placed in the RECORD so the American people can review the transcript of George Papadopoulos. The American people deserve to know the origins of the probe against President Trump's campaign.

I will continue to release as many transcripts as possible. The American people deserve transparency.

MAKE QUALITY HEALTH INSURANCE MORE AFFORDABLE

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, Saturday, March 23, we celebrated the ninth anniversary of the passage of the Affordable Care Act, which has expanded health insurance to over 20 million people in the last 5 years. But quality health insurance remains unaffordable and out of reach for far too many Americans.

Today, I introduced the Health Care Affordability Act to help fix that and reduce premiums for Americans who purchase private health plans through the marketplace.

My legislation would cut premiums by hundreds or thousands of dollars per year for more than 10 million people. It does this by increasing the tax credits people get to make premiums more affordable and allowing more people to qualify for tax credits.

This important improvement would guarantee middle-class consumers would pay no more than 8½ percent of their income on premiums. This would be a huge help to families.

For example, in my district, a typical family of four currently pays \$1,741 per month for marketplace coverage. With my bill, their monthly premiums would drop by nearly half.

A typical 60-year-old couple in my district making \$80,000 currently pays over a third of their monthly income for marketplace coverage. My legislation would reduce their monthly premiums by over \$1,700.

This legislation moves us forward by making lower cost coverage available to at least 9 million uninsured Americans, while reducing premiums for an additional 10 million Americans.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in making quality health insurance more affordable by cosponsoring this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING GOLAN HEIGHTS AS PART OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

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

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the United States' recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

Now is a critical and appropriate time for the United States to formally recognize the Golan Heights as part of Israel. At a time when Iran and terrorist organizations, including Hezbollah, are using the turmoil created by the civil war in Syria to expand their presence in the region, it is clear they hope to seize the Golan Heights to then launch attacks against Israel.

Recognizing Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights is vital to the security interest of the United States and Israel.

I co-led a letter last December to Secretary Pompeo outlining the critical nature of recognizing Israeli sovereignty over the Golan and encouraging the administration to do so. This recognition should have occurred under several previous administrations, but the strong leadership needed was not present.

I am glad that we finally have a President that is taking the necessary steps to foster stability and peace in the Middle East. I applaud President Trump and his administration for issuing the proclamation recognizing the Golan Heights as part of the State of Israel.

KEEP LIBERIAN COMMUNITY HERE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, our Nation is the land of promise and the land of opportunity. We open our doors to the tired, to the poor, and to the huddled masses. And, for decades, we have opened our doors to Liberian refugees fleeing vicious civil wars and the Ebola virus.

The Liberian community in Minnesota—my home State—is the hard-working bedrock of our healthcare industry. They are parents, children, brothers, sisters, workers, businessowners, and taxpayers.

In 1999, they were given a special immigration status in the United States: deferred enforced departure, or DED. They work legally, they pay taxes, but currently have no pathway to citizenship.

Madam Speaker, if you are here legally, play by the rules, and contribute to your community, you should have nothing to fear. But if we don't act by March 31, the Liberian community's DED status will expire. It will subject our friends and our neighbors to deportation, and our community is terrified.

Since its inception, DED has been a bipartisan issue. Both Republican and Democratic Presidents have acted to extend it for two decades. Now it is our turn.

This week, we have the chance to send a legislative fix to the President's desk. I urge all of us, on both sides of the aisle, to do the right thing, the humane thing, and keep our Liberian community here in their homes in the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DEBORAH R. MCBRIDE

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50-year career of Deborah R. McBride, better known as Debby.

Debby was born to Clarence and Miriam McBride in Washington, D.C. After graduating high school, she moved to Birmingham, Alabama, to attend Birmingham-Southern.

During her senior year in college, she came to Capitol Hill and lined up a job with former Democratic Congressman Bill Nichols and worked as a case-worker until his death in 1988.

She stayed on with the office of Alabama's Third Congressional District until Dr. Glen Browder, also a Democrat, was elected in a special election in April of 1989. She continued her work as a caseworker, as well as scheduling and office manager.

In 1996, Bob Riley was elected. Although a Democrat, Debby continued

to work for him through his three terms doing casework, serving as office manager and taking on coordinating tours and flags.

I was elected in 2002 and, like before, Debby stayed on to work for me, continuing in her roles and her service to east Alabama. Debby has been with me since day one. If you polled the Third Congressional District, she would certainly be more popular than me.

She has institutional knowledge that cannot be replaced, and I know I will miss her very much. Debby has a heart of gold and has touched many lives. The Third District of Alabama will not be the same without her.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Debby for her unwavering service to the people of Alabama and our country.

□ 1215

EMERGENCY FUNDING AND MILITARY PROJECTS

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

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Madam Speaker, the Department of Defense published a report revealing the dire impacts of the President's unlawful emergency declaration. It threatens to steal nearly \$150 million of urgently needed Arizona military construction funds critical to the security of our Nation and the well-being of our men and women in uniform and military families.

Both military bases within my district, Fort Huachuca and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, are on the list that could be directly affected by these cuts, and I am here today to say, no way.

I represent a border district in southern Arizona, and we don't want the expensive, ineffective wall. We want our military bases funded.

Madam Speaker, 59 percent of Americans reject this emergency declaration. I will continue to take action to block this brutal decision and fight to protect Arizonans from the drastic consequences of this dangerous, unlawful declaration.

CONGRATULATING NEW ULM MEDICAL CENTER

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the New Ulm Medical Center for being named the number one critical access hospital in the United States for 2019. This medical center, part of Allina Health, serves more than 13,000 New Ulm residents and countless more folks in southern Minnesota.

The New Ulm Medical Center has found positive ways to improve afford-

ability and increase successful patient outcomes. Even when faced with serious health challenges, patients can thrive when they have access to affordable and conveniently located healthcare.

All Americans deserve access to quality, timely medical care. I am very pleased that residents in New Ulm, Brown County, and surrounding areas in southern Minnesota have such a fine institution of medicine to provide them.

Congratulations to New Ulm Medical Center, and thank you for serving our community.

HONORING DR. JOAQUIN GONZALEZ CIGARROA

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez Cigarroa.

Dr. Cigarroa was born in San Antonio but soon moved with his family to Laredo, Texas. From an early age, he knew that medicine was going to be his calling and devoted himself to academics.

He graduated as valedictorian from his class at Martin High School, then went off to attend the University of Texas and then Harvard Medical School, where he received his medical degree. He was the first Harvard University medical student from the Texas-Mexico border.

After graduating, Dr. Cigarroa served his country as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army Medical Corps before returning to Laredo and practicing medicine.

Dr. Cigarroa made a dramatic impact on education, not only in Laredo but across the State of Texas, and also in healthcare.

He will be fondly remembered for his commitment to education, healthcare, and a career that changed the way of life for so many people.

Dr. Cigarroa is survived by his wife, Barbara Judith Raymond Flores; their children: Patricia, Barbara, Francisco, Ricardo, Jorge, Carlos, Gabriella, Joaquin, Maria-Elena, and Marisa—10 children; and, again, by so many grandchildren and so many great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to honor the life of Dr. Joaquin Cigarroa.

GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE 107TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scouts' 107th birthday, which was celebrated earlier this month. This anniversary is important to women everywhere, but particularly in the First