

and target the young and people of color.

Unfortunately, that war on drugs continues to this day. Last year, there were tens of thousands of young people of color, particularly Black Americans, who were caught in the net of law enforcement with citations or arrests for something that the majority of Americans now think should be legal.

Indeed, the majority of Republicans think marijuana should be legal. And action has been taken in State after State, usually with a vote of the people; that is the case in my State of Oregon, California, Arizona, and Nevada, where the decision has been made by voters that this mindless prohibition against marijuana makes no sense. Ten States have completely legalized adult use. Over 33 have legalized medical cannabis. And then you take some of the specialized legislation that deals with children with extreme seizure disorders for whom an extract of cannabis is the only thing that gives these children relief from that torture of dozens, sometimes hundreds of seizures a day. Overall 47 States have acted to legalize cannabis in some form.

With the House leadership in Democratic control, we have taken key steps. We passed the Safe Banking Act with overwhelming bipartisan support. 321 Members voted for the legislation that would extend banking services to this large and growing sector of our economy. It is one of the other elements that is languishing in the Senate, but it demonstrates that broad bipartisan support.

In the House Judiciary Committee, the MORE Act, under the leadership of Chairman JERRY NADLER working with the Cannabis Caucus, has produced legislation that has been approved by the Judiciary Committee with a bipartisan vote. I am pleased to note that it incorporates many of the provisions of BARBARA LEE's Marijuana Justice Act, which was endorsed by the CBC with over 60 percent majority.

It is time for us to take the next step. These needless traffic stops sometimes start with looking for a broken taillight, as law enforcement are involved with fishing expeditions looking for marijuana. Too often it catches young people, especially young people of color in the net. Indeed, they don't target White Americans who use cannabis at the same rate. It is targeted specifically against people of color. Too often those interactions with law enforcement lead to tragic results.

It is time for the House to act to end this failed policy of prohibition, protect young Black lives and be able to fully legalize cannabis by passing the MORE Act. We can do this quickly and easily, and I hope we do.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 9 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Almighty God, thank You for giving us another day. Bless and comfort those who suffer from coronavirus; give them healing. Bless and comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones in the wake of COVID-19.

With the Psalmist, we turn to You:

Have mercy upon us, O God, for we are treated harshly;

Our foes treat us harshly all the day;

Yes, many are our attackers.

O Most High, when we are afraid, in You we place our trust. We praise the word of God; we trust in God and do not fear.

All the day, our enemies foil our plans; Their every thought is of evil against us. They . . . lie in wait for our lives.

Our issues, our threats are many, O God. Pandemic, civil unrest and police reform, aggressive Russian and Chinese policies, a struggling economy. Help us in our time of need.

Bless the people's House, and may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROUDA 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HELPING BUSINESSES TO REOPEN SAFELY

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, small businesses in Orange County and across

the United States are struggling. States and local governments have given shops and restaurants the green light for reopening but have failed to provide businesses with the resources they need to open safely.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce the bipartisan Helping Businesses Reopen Safely Act of 2020 with Congressman BRIAN MAST of Florida. This bill will provide a tax credit to small businesses, nonprofits, and local governments of up to \$25,000 annually to purchase personal protective equipment and other supplies that are essential to mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

Madam Speaker, the science is clear. PPE, like face masks, is our most effective tool to keep Americans safe and keep our economy running. My bill would ensure businesses aren't financially penalized for providing safe and clean service.

Madam Speaker, the Helping Businesses Reopen Safely Act of 2020 would help businesses open while protecting the public health of workers, customers, and communities. I urge my colleagues to support and pass this crucial legislation.

RECOGNIZING SMITH REYNOLDS AIRPORT

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, Smith Reynolds Airport, located in North Carolina's Fifth District, is set to be designated as North Carolina's first legacy airport.

Originally named Miller Municipal Field in 1927, the airport was soon renamed in 1942 after the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation made a donation to the airport.

Madam Speaker, since its inception, the airport has served as an Army Corps facility and was the birthplace for Piedmont Airlines, the legacy carrier that merged with US Airways.

Madam Speaker, with this designation on the horizon, I am confident that the airport will continue to be a vital component of the community and that North Carolina's aviation sector will continue to grow and contribute to our State's vibrant economy.

ASSISTING INDEPENDENT RESTAURANTS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud of the rapid action that the House took—\$3 trillion approved on a bipartisan basis with the Senate. And we have moved forward with the HEROES Act, another \$3 trillion that is pending action. We fixed the PPP to better meet the needs of small businesses, but one area needs special attention.

Madam Speaker, over 500,000 independent restaurants with 11 million employees are going to face catastrophic consequences this year. In April alone, one-half of the unemployed, 5.5 million people, were from the independent restaurants area. Without special, tailored Federal help, we are going to see 85 percent of them disappear for good.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have introduced, on a bipartisan basis, the RESTAURANTS Act, H.R. 7197, which would establish a \$120 billion fund tailored to provide assistance for independent restaurants.

I strongly urge my colleagues to talk to their independent restaurants, the cornerstone of a vital community. If we act now, we can save them yet this year, a vital element in each and every one of our communities.

Madam Speaker, the H.R. 7197, the RESTAURANTS Act, will provide massive support at a time when it is needed.

MEMORIALIZING MAYOR LEONARD SCARCELLA

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, the city of Stafford, Fort Bend County, the State of Texas, and all of America lost a great man Sunday: Mayor Leonard Scarcella.

He was a true Texas force of nature. He listened to all, regardless of what country you came from or where you worshipped. His life was about making all human life better.

Madam Speaker, for 51 years as mayor, he did just that. He helped bring Texas Instruments to Stafford in 1967, opening the door to Fort Bend to attract corporate America.

Not happy with the public education in Stafford, he fought for the only city-run school board in Texas.

Tired of people going to the big city of Houston for concerts and conventions, Leonard opened the Stafford Centre in 2004.

He proudly governed without one penny of property tax.

It was Leonard who brought the stunning 30,000-piece BAPS Hindu Temple to Stafford in 2004.

Madam Speaker, to close, nearly 1 million Texans in Fort Bend County are mourning now. I join them. God bless Mayor Leonard Scarcella.

STRENGTHEN THE ACA

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to pass the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act.

Because we are in the middle of a global pandemic that has killed almost

130,000 Americans and is ravaging my home State of Texas and has left our hospitals overwhelmed right now, it is now more important that we do everything that we can to strengthen the ACA. This important legislation has already given access to millions of people that now have lifesaving healthcare, many who could not previously access it.

Madam Speaker, this legislation that I am working on now pushes critical provisions, like lowering healthcare costs, strengthening protections for people with preexisting conditions, negotiating for lower prescription drug prices, and expanding healthcare by pressing for Medicaid expansion.

Madam Speaker, let me tell you something: You don't want to get sick in Texas right now. You don't want to get sick in Texas right now. Our hospitals are overwhelmed because of the inaction of our Governor. It is shameful.

Anything that we can do here to help the crisis that we have back in our State, which is also about to grip other States in this Nation, we need to act on it now.

Time cannot wait.

STATE HEALTH CARE PREMIUM REDUCTION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1017, I call up the bill (H.R. 1425) to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for a Improve Health Insurance Affordability Fund to provide for certain reinsurance payments to lower premiums in the individual health insurance market, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1017, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of the Rules Committee Print 116-56, modified by the amendment printed in part B of House Report 116-436, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 1425

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—LOWERING HEALTH CARE COSTS AND PROTECTING PEOPLE WITH PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS

Sec. 101. Improving affordability by expanding premium assistance for consumers.

Sec. 102. Improving affordability by reducing out-of-pocket and premium costs for consumers.

Sec. 103. Expanding affordability for working families to fix the family glitch.

Sec. 104. Tax credit reconciliation protections for individuals receiving social security lump-sum payments.

Sec. 105. Preserving State option to implement health care Marketplaces.

Sec. 106. Establishing a Health Insurance Affordability Fund.

Sec. 107. Rescinding the short-term limited duration insurance regulation.

Sec. 108. Revoking section 1332 guidance.

Sec. 109. Requiring Marketplace outreach, educational activities, and annual enrollment targets.

Sec. 110. Report on effects of website maintenance during open enrollment.

Sec. 111. Promoting consumer outreach and education.

Sec. 112. Improving transparency and accountability in the Marketplace.

Sec. 113. Improving awareness of health coverage options.

Sec. 114. Promoting State innovations to expand coverage.

Sec. 115. Strengthening network adequacy.

Sec. 116. Protecting consumers from unreasonable rate hikes.

Sec. 117. Eligibility of DACA recipients for qualified health plans offered through Exchanges.

TITLE II—ENCOURAGING MEDICAID EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING THE MEDICAID PROGRAM

Sec. 201. Incentivizing Medicaid expansion.

Sec. 202. Providing 12-months of continuous eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP.

Sec. 203. Mandatory 12-months of postpartum Medicaid eligibility.

Sec. 204. Reducing the administrative FMAP for nonexpansion States.

Sec. 205. Enhanced reporting requirements for nonexpansion states.

Sec. 206. Primary care pay increase.

Sec. 207. Permanent funding for CHIP.

Sec. 208. Permanent extension of CHIP enrollment and quality measures.

Sec. 209. State option to increase children's eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP.

Sec. 210. Medicaid coverage for citizens of Freely Associated States.

Sec. 211. Extension of full Federal medical assistance percentage to Indian health care providers.

TITLE III—LOWERING PRICES THROUGH FAIR DRUG PRICE NEGOTIATION

Sec. 301. Establishing a Fair Drug Pricing Program.

Sec. 302. Drug manufacturer excise tax for non-compliance.

Sec. 303. Fair Price Negotiation Implementation Fund.

TITLE IV—PUBLIC HEALTH INVESTMENTS

Sec. 401. Supporting increased innovation.

TITLE I—LOWERING HEALTH CARE COSTS AND PROTECTING PEOPLE WITH PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS

SEC. 101. IMPROVING AFFORDABILITY BY EXPANDING PREMIUM ASSISTANCE FOR CONSUMERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 36B(b)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(A) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—The applicable percentage for any taxable year shall be the percentage such that the applicable percentage for any taxpayer whose household income is within an income tier specified in the following table shall increase, on a sliding scale in a linear manner, from the initial premium percentage to the final premium percentage specified in such table for such income tier: