

United States Congress. We have been kicking the can down the street for far too long, from the Clinton administration all the way to the Obama administration. The Affordable Care Act did nothing to make it affordable.

We have done nothing to curb the inflationary costs, and it is certainly not the doctors' problem because doctors took a 2.3 percent pay cut last year alone. If you are an ER doctor in Georgia, you probably took about an 18 percent pay decrease in 1 year, and that is after serving during COVID for 3 years on nights, weekends, and holidays. That is your congratulations.

How do we address this? Quite frankly, we are going to have to make some hard choices. America has to understand, first of all, how complex this issue is when you have PBMs, GPOs, pharmaceutical companies, insurance companies, Medicaid, Medicare, when you have the government involved, private pay, when you have hospital systems and healthcare providers. These are just some of the problems we have.

Right now, 90 percent of the ingredients that go into drugs are produced in China. You have almost all of the market for amoxicillin and Augmentin cornered by an adversarial nation.

We have admin costs that have grown in the hospital system from 25 percent to 40 percent in just the last 10 years. Take that into account. Forty percent of every dollar spent on healthcare is spent on administrative costs. That means too much regulatory burden, not enough competition.

We continue to talk about a single-payer system as the end-all, be-all to healthcare. Let's take that into account right now. Medicaid is done at a loss. It doesn't pay the bills. As a matter of fact, we have an act right now that talks about supplementing people with a tax break so they can actually see more Medicaid patients and afford it and stay open. It is not the answer.

If we go to a single-payer system, you are talking about adding \$30 trillion of expense to the government in the next 10 years. That means \$30 trillion more in either tax or debt.

We have pretty much lost our minds over the \$32 trillion of debt we are already in. Imagine adding \$30 trillion more to spending. It would be the largest increase in spending and government control there has ever been in American history. We have a massive problem.

On top of that, despite spending about \$32 billion on electronic medical records and spending a lot of money on coders, in many cases, we still have 45 percent of claims not being reimbursed by insurance companies. This simply can't continue to happen.

People are using their insurance companies the wrong way. If we used car insurance the same way we use healthcare insurance, you would be spending your car insurance to actually change your car oil. It would probably cost about \$500 per pop, and you wouldn't be able to afford car insurance.

We need to look at this in a different way. The problem is, if I talk about cutting administrative costs in medicine, people will immediately vilify me for trying to cut Medicaid and Medicare. This is why it has to be a bipartisan issue. We have to have a real conversation, and it can't be about calling people names but about actually solving a problem.

If we want to talk about a real solution, I think we have to start thinking about not just taking this as subcommittees, not just a subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, not just a subcommittee of Ways and Means, not just a subcommittee of VA or a subcommittee of Foreign Affairs. We actually have to have staff that are dedicated to a process that is so complex, so big, has so many lobbyists involved that it is impossible for a physician with an MBA to figure out how to handle it himself.

This is something we are going to have to take as a problem that all of us have to solve without vilifying each other. If we don't do it soon, we will increase government and increase spending, and we will have rationing simultaneously.

Final point: If you want a good example of a single-payer system, the VA is exactly what you are going to get, and it is not popular.

FREEDOM FOR EVERY AMERICAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to acknowledge June 6, 1944, D-Day, the day the largest land, sea, and air attack came to Normandy to fight Hitler. It was an unbelievable surge of power for freedom.

Just a few years ago, I had the privilege of commemorating D-Day at Normandy and being able to see the rows and rows of those who died in the name of freedom. Nine thousand of the Allies died, men and women, men in particular, from the United States of America.

I honor them today and recognize that as we stand in this place, as we debate on this floor, we have the responsibility to pay tribute to why they fought for freedom and their love of America. We have the responsibility to do the right thing for the American people.

That is why I stand today to raise an issue that has plagued us over and over again, and that is the enormity of gun violence, the proliferation of guns, and the loss of life of our children. Violence is impacting our children every single day.

Yesterday, we held a powerful hearing to talk about how we can stop this gun violence. We heard from people who were victims, like Lloyd Gock, a victim of the Monterey Park shooting. His words rang so powerfully. He heard 42 gunshots, and he heard the bodies dropping, 11 dead and 9 wounded. He

understands that a weapon of war should not be on the streets and that we should ban assault weapons.

We also heard medical testimony, or professional health testimony, that indicated that storage, as indicated in the Kimberly Vaughan Firearm Safe Storage Act, would be most helpful in saving the lives of children. Some 4 million children live in homes where guns are laid around and not stored. They lose their lives there. Every single day, eight children lose their lives by way of gun violence.

What about Mr. Kling from the Giffords organization that says 6,500 veterans die every year due to gun violence, to suicide? It is imperative that we understand that their weapon of choice is a gun. Some would say that they are suicidal, that they have mental issues.

It is the proliferation of guns—red flag laws, banning assault weapons, raising the age.

We all still feel the pain of many shootings, but we feel the pain of Uvalde. I have come to know those families and the elected officials there who have been in pain, the city that has been in pain. The families and children remain in pain.

You see how many of these small caskets they had to watch being buried in that community when a child, yes, under the age of 21 got a gun online. How outrageous is that?

I stand here today saying: Are we going to keep the promise of those who laid their lives on the line for a free nation, or are we going to continually be against what is right?

Let me quickly indicate that we must do something about the massive evictions across America. People are unhoused and need more housing. I am going to fight against the high numbers of evictions in all of our communities and will introduce legislation dealing with eviction. I want to bring it down in Houston and cities around the Nation.

As well, I want to make sure that whatever rights we have, all people deserve the same rights, and that is access to freedom, justice, and equality and to recognize their diversity and access to healthcare.

It was the Democrats who saved Medicaid when a million people were going to lose their Medicaid. Had we followed the leadership of our friends on the other side of the aisle, with their early bill H.R. 1, 1 million people—but we stopped it. We are stopping the default and negotiating away the idea of taking a million people off of Medicaid, their lifeline for healthcare.

It is extremely important that we recognize that men and women laid down their lives or put on the uniform unselfishly. They do so so that freedom can be for every American.

HONORING MOTHER ROSA PARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I was honored to join Rosa Parks' family, alongside Senator GARY PETERS and local community advocates, to rename the Grand River Post Office near her home in Detroit the Rosa Louise McCauley Parks Post Office.

I am so proud to recognize the mother of the civil rights movement and a beloved resident of our community in Detroit, Mother Rosa Parks.

It was truly a personal honor to partner with Mother Parks' family to keep this freedom fighter's legacy alive in yet another powerful way.

I cannot wait for the child to walk in to see the name on the post office and ask: "Who was that?"

It was a privilege to lead this effort in Congress, with the support of the Michigan delegation, to commemorate this incredible civil rights leader.

As we know, on December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to surrender her seat on a Montgomery bus to a White passenger. Her refusal was not only an act of courage and a protest against racial segregation and oppression, Madam Speaker, it was an assertion that our Black neighbors deserved human dignity.

Her act of defiance ignited the Montgomery bus boycott, a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement.

In 1957, Mother Parks left Montgomery, Alabama, to move to the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country, the city of Detroit. She lived there for nearly 50 years and served our community tirelessly as a congressional staff member for the late Congressman John Conyers.

Despite efforts that we are seeing today around the Nation of those who want to erase history leaders like Mother Rosa Parks, Dr. King, Malcolm X, and so many others, we will continue to uplift those who bent the arc of the moral universe toward justice.

Today and always, Madam Speaker, we stand on the shoulders of Mother Parks and the countless others who fought for equality and justice for all. I am inspired every single day by her bravery and strength. Her legacy serves as a powerful reminder to every single one of us that, with courage and determination, there is power to change the course of our history.

May Mother Parks always remind us that we cannot remain silent when we encounter injustice, discrimination, or racism, but that we must always take a stand and speak out, even when our voice shakes, to continue to build on her most beautiful movement to build a more equitable, loving, and just world.

Madam Speaker, we know that our struggle against racism and white supremacy is a lifelong pursuit. As Mother Parks wrote: "Freedom fighters never retire." As her memory continues to guide us, may her legacy never die.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to honor Mother Parks alongside the

McCauley and Parks families and hope that the symbol of our appreciation is felt by those who loved her.

□ 1030

AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I was blessed to have grown up in southwest Detroit. This is where over 20 different ethnicities live, and every neighborhood has their own flavor in how they show up for each other.

This is why I am so grateful that I secured \$1.5 million in funding for American Indian Health and Family Services as they expand their healthcare and mental health services to our families.

This healthcare center is tucked in a residential street between homes where people can walk to get the services that they need.

Expanding their efforts will change lives in a meaningful way, and I am so proud to have been part of that.

AUTO INSURANCE DISCRIMINATION

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, auto insurance discrimination continues to keep our residents in a cycle of poverty. Your education level, your ZIP code, and marital status doesn't determine your driving ability and neither does your credit score. Yet our neighbors, especially in Detroit, regularly face higher insurance rates—up to \$5,000 per month in some cases.

Someone with a perfect driving record and poor credit can pay up to two or three times more than those with a higher credit score, even with a driving under the influence violation.

We must stop these predatory and discriminatory practices by auto insurance companies.

I am so grateful to partner with Congresswoman WATSON COLEMAN and Congressman TAKANO in introducing the Prohibiting Auto Insurance Discrimination Act. This is how we can push back against corporate greed and those that use proxies to discriminate.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, You call us into relationship with You. That we can stand here

in the place of our labor, in the middle of our day-to-day lives and, with confidence in Your love and mercy, approach You with our hopes and concerns, our joys and our burdens, is nothing short of a profound privilege.

Evoke in us the certainty of Your gracious plan for us, so that as we consider the problems set before us, our response would serve as a testimony to the love, joy, and peace to which You call us.

Deepen our trust in Your providence and care so that as we tackle the work ahead of us, we would face all that we encounter with patience, kindness, and generosity.

Awaken us to the goodness and worth of each person with whom we serve. Despite our differences or our diffidence, our proximity or our disparity, may we encounter each one with faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Remind us that there are no laws that prohibit us from either receiving or giving these precious proofs of Your spirit at work in us. And so, we dedicate ourselves to the stewardship of all that You have bestowed on us and recommit ourselves to bear the fruit of Your love.

In Your generous name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SPANBERGER 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

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