

As a doctor, as a conservative, as an American, as a steward of the Federal taxpayer—when I say Federal taxpayer, I mean you and me and everybody watching and everyone in the Gallery—let's steward that money correctly. I urge my colleagues to reject this resolution and continue with bipartisan, important work to make healthcare more affordable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES RELATING TO "PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; MARKETPLACE INTEGRITY AND AFFORDABILITY"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 293, S.J. Res 84.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 293, S.J. Res. 84, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Marketplace Integrity and Affordability".

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today because I think it is painfully clear that we need to do something to address the growing healthcare crisis in this country.

Let me be clear at the outset that when we talk about the CRA that the clerk just reported, it is not directly related—it is not the tax credit issue that has been the subject of an enormous amount of other debate and, frankly, action in the House but a CRA that will be voted on later today that will overturn a rule that the Trump administration has put forward that will result in 1.8 million Americans being thrown off their health insurance.

It is beyond the tax credit issue. It is beyond the Medicaid changes. This is a rule that the administration set forward last year that adds enormous amounts of regulatory burden for any American who chooses to access the so-called ObamaCare Marketplace.

The truth is, this administration's attack on the Marketplace, ObamaCare, the Affordable Care Act didn't start with this rule. As we all know in this Chamber, this is just another step in a now close to 15-year crusade by many of my Republican colleagues to undermine the ACA, which, at the end of the day, is just going to—as we have seen already—is going to increase healthcare costs for everybody.

We know that at the end of last year, as the expiration of the ACA enhanced premium tax credits approached,

Democrats in Congress worked hard to try to extend them. We put forward a strong, compromised proposal to extend the credits and keep health insurance affordable for the close to 24 million Americans who access their healthcare through the Marketplace.

Unfortunately, time and again, Republicans voted against it, ensuring that when the clock struck midnight on January 1, millions of Americans were priced out of that coverage. Families across the country have now been hit with premium increases of \$800, \$900, and even over \$1,000 per month.

Somebody in my State of Virginia—Kathleen, a mother of two and a small business owner living in Newport News, saw her premium for her family of four increase from 544 bucks a month to over \$1,500 a month. That is a yearly increase of about \$11,500 a year—a pricetag that her family just can't afford. She told me she came up to the Hill before New Year's hit and that she hoped and prayed for a solution.

Frankly, I wish all of my Republican colleagues who helped block that solution could have explained to her why blocking that solution, which we offered as a straightforward extension of the ACA premium tax credits—why they blocked that, because Kathleen and so many other families desperately needed it.

I will have to say I have to give some rare congratulations to at least 17 Members of the House, Republican Members of the House, which had actually taken action recently to address this crisis. Seventeen House Republicans finally said enough is enough and voted with Democrats in the House to extend the credits, which will again lower the costs for millions.

I hope that we can get a similar type of compromise through in the Senate. I know there are colleagues on both sides of the aisle working hard on that issue right now.

While the credits have taken up most of the space around the debate, what I rise today on—the CRA that will be voted on this afternoon—will provide an even more immediate solution to at least take away another barrier to healthcare accessibility and affordability.

I am asking my colleagues—and I will be joined by other colleagues to talk about this over the next hour or so—I am asking my colleagues to join me in disapproving a harmful rule that the Trump administration finalized last year that was set to kick in at the end of 2025. As I mentioned, that would take about 1.8 to 2 million people off their healthcare because of the enormous administrative burdens that are put in place by this administrative rule to try to get access to the Marketplace.

This is at least a chance today—not at some future date—to come together to do the bare minimum and address at least a small part of the emergency straining our healthcare system.

Now, I will acknowledge that because this administrative burden is so bur-

densome, the courts have paused its enactment, but at any moment, that pause could be taken away.

So let's just use the CRA, which has been used by both sides of the aisle repeatedly, to get rid of this additional burden because, simply put, this harmful Trump rule makes it harder to enroll in a Marketplace plan, harder to stay on a Marketplace plan, and harder and more expensive for States to run a Marketplace.

The rule requires increased paperwork for families, reduces open and special enrollment periods, and allows insurers to push more healthcare costs on Americans by allowing plans to cover less care. That also adds a ton more paperwork and burdens on the marketplaces all across the country.

Again, according to the Trump administration's own document, these added barriers and higher premiums will lead to that estimate of at least 1.8 million people losing coverage if this rule—which is, again, scheduled to go into effect but has only not gone into effect in 2026 because of a current pause by the courts.

But I think we ought to avoid this cliff and just act today as a Senate and say: Let's not have this rule take effect.

I think most of us would agree that 2025 was not a great year for healthcare in this country. Medicaid cuts, which are going to be enormous, which, frankly, were not scheduled to kick in until after the 2026 elections, interestingly enough—although I can tell you we have already seen rural healthcare clinics close in Virginia because of that expectation—and my colleagues' refusal to extend the enhanced premium tax credits are all weighing down on our healthcare system, and we are seeing rural hospitals and rural healthcare centers really bear the brunt of this.

The truth is, the Trump administration and congressional Republicans have jammed through healthcare policies that, combined with the rule and the tax premiums—minimum, looks like about 15 million Americans will get kicked off their health insurance.

So let's go back. My Republican colleagues and the President won in 2024 because they said they are going to lower costs. We can actually take action on lowering costs today. So let's join together, use the CRA tool, and end this policy. All you have to do is vote for the Congressional Review Act resolution making sure the number—not my number; the Trump administration's number—the 1.8 million Americans will actually get to keep their healthcare. All you have to do is vote for this CRA resolution so that folks don't have to deal with enormously burdensome paperwork and the higher costs that result.

Now, I think we can get this done. We have seen my Republican colleagues stand up to the President on the Epstein files, on war powers, and just in the last day or so, the attack on

the independence of the Federal Reserve. Let's have that pushback extend now to healthcare costs. Let's help millions keep their healthcare today and then work together toward a long-term, sustainable plan to keep healthcare costs stable for the next decade.

Before I yield the floor, I want to also acknowledge—this is something a lot of us have been working on. Senator KLOBUCHAR does such a great job on so many issues. Senator WYDEN, the leader on the Finance Committee—they and others will come today to speak on this issue as well.

I hope my colleagues are listening, and I hope they will actually acknowledge that we have to bring healthcare costs down today. This isn't a full solution, but at least it is an action that we can take today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator WARNER for his tremendous leadership on this important issue that is just really tormenting so many Americans right now—as well as Senator WYDEN.

This involves tens of millions of Americans who are facing a healthcare crisis. Their premiums are doubling or tripling, and it is completely in our hands to do something about it.

Open enrollment is ending in 2 days. Americans across the country are looking at their budgets and facing this difficult choice of whether to pay double or triple for coverage or go uninsured.

Why are tens of millions of Americans facing this reality? Well, because congressional Republicans failed to act, to come to the table to negotiate an extension of the enhanced Affordable Care Act tax credits before the end of last year.

Last Thursday, the House passed legislation to extend these healthcare tax credits for 3 years. Seventeen Republicans joined Democrats. You think about it, they could have done that months ago—months ago. We were willing to negotiate with them 3 years, 2 years, 1 year at the time. They wouldn't do anything. And now they have realized—I guess they didn't understand what was happening to their constituents when 20-some percent of farmers and ranchers are on these kinds of policies and 75 percent of them are in red States.

The legislation that Senator WARNER and Senator WYDEN proposed is simple and reasonable. We are simply saying: Let's make sure the same tax credits that made care more accessible for tens of millions of Americans yesterday and last year and the year before that continue to be there for families this year. Americans are looking for us to act, and the time to act is now.

I have heard from people across my State in what is a very, very difficult time right now in the State of Minnesota. With the arrival of ICE on our streets, with people terrified, with the

chaos that has ensued, we are still hearing from people about healthcare all the time.

Nicci from Waseca wrote to me that the healthcare premium for her and her husband almost tripled from \$862 a month to \$2,344, which, over the course of the year, is more than her annual salary. She called the increase “insufferable.”

Nadine from Sartell, a 53-year-old single mom, shared that she has a master's degree in social work but lives nearly paycheck to paycheck now because her housing and utility costs eat up over half of her monthly income, and unless Congress renews the healthcare tax credits, she is not going to be able to purchase healthcare because there are only 2 days left. And here is the kicker: Just 4 months ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She has already used up nearly all she has in savings for the copays and insurance to get a diagnosis and receive treatment.

Another constituent, a schoolbus driver named David, saw his premiums double. He is now spending 12 percent of his total pretax income on health insurance. David wrote:

It's difficult and frustrating to see life crumble before your eyes. Just trying to get ahead and just to find setbacks waiting for you. I would like Congress to actually sit in real life people's shoes for just a while to see how it feels. I hope we can get something changed.

That is a busdriver in Minnesota begging our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stand and sit in his shoes, because if Congress can't fix this, David shared with me that even though he works full time, he will have to give up his health insurance entirely.

The rules that Senator WARNER and Senator WYDEN and others of us have suggested do away with the caps that limit how much of their income people like David must spend on health insurance, and so as we work to extend the healthcare tax credits, it is critical that we stop the administration from further undermining the Affordable Care Act and raising costs.

And this just isn't happening in my State. As I know, three-quarters of the people who get their health coverage on this ACA Marketplace live in States that President Trump won. We know the stakes, and we must come together to solve this affordability crisis. And I will note that the amount of money given to Argentina was approximately the same amount it would take to fix this for 1 year.

There is a lot more work to be done to lower healthcare costs: Medicare drug price negotiations that I have led for years and making sure that is really happening under this administration, reforming prior authorization, making improvements, public option. We can go on and on and on.

But, right now, we have one crisis that is hitting so many Americans, and we have a way to fix it. So I urge my Republican colleagues to join us to

stop Americans' healthcare premiums from skyrocketing, and simply bring to the Senate floor and pass the bipartisan House-passed bill to extend the healthcare tax credits that Americans rely on, and, of course, to vote for S.J. Res. 84, which is in front of us today. And we thank Senator WARNER and Senator WYDEN for leading the effort.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, before she leaves the floor, I just want to say that the Senator from Minnesota has been relentless in terms of standing up for folks who are just trying to get a fair shake on their premiums. I have been doing this since my days with the Gray Panthers, and I know what it means to be persistent. That defines Senator KLOBUCHAR, and I thank her.

I am pleased to be working with Senator WARNER and Senator OSSOFF—and I see Senator KAINE here—because all of us want to make sure we lower healthcare costs for American families.

Today, the Senate is going to vote to repeal a host of damaging policies that Donald Trump, Robert Kennedy, and Dr. Oz have unleashed on Americans who are unsuspecting. People are just trying to get by in tough times and are going to get hammered, and from the day Donald Trump was sworn in, this administration made attacking Americans' healthcare their top priority.

Last summer, Republicans in Congress rammed through a massive bill to give tax breaks to billionaires and giant corporations, while making the largest healthcare cuts in American history.

At the same time, the Trump administration used the Byzantine Federal rulemaking process to double down on these efforts by finalizing the rule that all of us on this side of the aisle are working to repeal today. The harmful changes made by the Trump administration come down to one proposition: It is OK to have more redtape, and it is just fine to increase healthcare costs.

That is the exact opposite of our agenda, which is to focus on affordability and making the American healthcare system simpler.

I am going to just tick through a couple of the worst examples to illustrate why these rules need to be junked.

First, the Trump rules will increase what American families have to pay out of pocket each year by nearly \$1,000. So the question becomes: What is the purpose behind that change, other than to take money from Americans who are already struggling?

The rule adds new fees, such as a new reenrollment fee that applies to low-income workers. To be clear, that means, if you want to keep your health insurance, you have got to pay a fee to the government just for the right to keep what you have got. Even by Washington, DC, standards—I say to my friend from Montana—that just defies common sense.

They also create mandatory minimum premiums that are going to cause millions to lose their coverage.

Now, Republicans say that these fees are aimed at reducing fraud. There is just no evidence to back it up. My view has been, ever since my days with the Gray Panthers, and my friend from Virginia knows about this—I say any fraud—any fraud—is too much. But the numbers are clear. The vast majority of fraud in healthcare is conducted by shady insurance brokers who are looking to make a fast buck through commissions from phony enrollments, not working Americans looking to buy healthcare.

So I have introduced legislation to create tough, criminal penalties for these insurance brokers. So make no mistake about it, Senator KAINE, there is something we ought to be doing to root out fraud. Let's go after these insurance brokers with tough criminal penalties.

I have been talking to Republicans to ask them to join as cosponsors, and they haven't been willing, really, to give us the time of day. Instead of going after fraud where it exists, Donald Trump and Republicans create barriers that are going to trip up Americans trying to navigate a healthcare system that is just too complicated.

Beyond fees and higher premiums, the Trump rule also adds new verification checks and enrollment rules that amount to an enormous heap of redtape. These redtape measures, according to authorities who have analyzed them, are going to create 15 million hours of paperwork, and 1.8 million people are going to lose their coverage as they try to navigate this never-never land of a maze of healthcare rules.

These types of changes are right out of the playbook of Big Insurance because they create barriers and bureaucratic hurdles so they can keep more of your money while denying working families basic healthcare.

It is no secret that Americans are fed up with a healthcare system that gets in their way at every turn. It is time for Republicans to do the right thing and join with Democrats to lower Americans' healthcare costs, instead of creating new cost barriers and redtape restrictions. They can help those families by voting with us today.

I urge my colleagues to support Senator WARNER, Senator OSSOFF, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and Senator KAINE. We are all here for one purpose: less bureaucracy, less redtape, lowering premiums for families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I am glad to join my colleagues to talk about the upcoming vote on S.J. Res. 84, the use of the Congressional Review Act to strike down a recent regulatory attack on the Affordable Care Act launched by the Trump administration.

I think my colleagues have done a pretty good job of explaining what is at

stake. Even the Trump administration's own experts at CMS, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, say that implementation of this rule could lead up to 1.8 million people to lose health insurance just this year, 2026. That would be devastating.

On top of the premium increases that people have seen because the Affordable Care Act extended tax credits were not extended when tax cuts for the wealthiest were extended, this additional burden on this 1.8 million-person population is unacceptable, and the vote we will cast today gives us all an opportunity to sort of shore up the healthcare network for those nearly 2 million people.

I wanted to focus, in particular, on the kind of person who is really going to be affected by the Trump rule if we do not affirmatively embrace this Congressional Review Act resolution, and that is self-employed entrepreneurs and gig workers.

You know, one of the challenges about the American healthcare system before the Affordable Care Act was it was very, very difficult to buy health insurance if you were an individual entrepreneur, if you had a very small business.

Without exchanges and the offering of policies on the exchanges with premium support for those who were lower or middle income, you had a lot of people who were self-employed entrepreneurs who couldn't buy insurance at all, and then you also had a huge group of people working with companies that had insurance that had this great American dream of an idea to start their own business, but they couldn't do it because if they were to leave their large employer to go off and follow their dream, they couldn't get health insurance.

And one of the very salutary effects of the ACA, through the creation of exchanges with premium support, has been to enable people to pursue their dream and become innovators or entrepreneurs or gig workers and work in the way and in the flexible circumstance they choose. And I speak from experience because two of my three kids fit into this category.

The rule that has been put in place by the Trump administration isn't going to make it particularly hard for large group plans to just re-up insurance, but it will make it very hard for those individuals that don't have an HR department fighting for them, that have to figure it out all on their own. It will make it very hard for them to negotiate the marketplace and buy insurance.

And, sometimes, their income is up, and, sometimes, their income is down. And, sometimes, they want to enroll, and, at other times, they don't. It is precisely this kind of person that is going to be hit the hardest by the Trump rule and why I am so strongly in support of my colleagues' efforts to repeal it.

You know, we often say—and I will conclude—that small businesses and

startups are the backbones of the American economy, and they are. I grew up in a house with a dad who worked for a huge company, and it was his dream to start his own business. And he bought a little iron working shop that, at the time that he bought it, had like four employees. And during the entire growing-up period when I worked in my Dad's shop, in a good year, it would be seven employees, and in a bad year, it would be four, plus my mom and my two brothers and me.

So many American businesses are just like this. They are one or two employees. They are somebody who even has another gig, maybe as an artist, and they are moonlighting in some area where they can make just enough to afford to buy health insurance on the exchange, if we don't crush them with high premiums and if we don't make the paperwork burdens so substantial.

The CRA that my colleagues are offering will be directly responsive to the needs of this very, very important group of American innovators and entrepreneurs. And that is why I so strongly support it and urge my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### STOP ILLEGAL ALIENS DRUNK DRIVING ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, my Republican colleagues and I spent a great deal of time this Congress focused on securing justice for victims of crimes committed by illegal aliens.

Unfortunately, during the last administration, the Biden administration was completely what I would call willfully blind to the threat posed by people coming unvetted across our borders.

From Laken Riley, to Kayla Hamilton, to Jocelyn Nungaray, the victims of illegal aliens are numerous and must not be forgotten. What makes these tragedies so heartbreaking is the knowledge that many of these victims could have lived but for the Biden administration's open border policies and its failure to act responsibly and enforce the law. These good Americans died at the hands of criminal aliens who should never have set foot in our country.

But there is another category of illegal alien criminals who perhaps are not so widely known, largely because the mainstream media outlets refuse to report on the many heinous crimes committed by illegal aliens each year. These are individuals who have endangered Americans by drunk driving.

Every 42 minutes, someone dies in a crash involving alcohol. As we have seen in the news, many of these crashes

have been caused by illegal aliens who jeopardize the safety of law-abiding Americans. They have killed or severely maimed U.S. citizens and other lawful residents, depriving families of their loved ones and causing untold human misery. Some of these aliens have driven with expired licenses, suspended licenses, or no license at all and have shown complete disregard for the danger this may pose.

Last January, two college students in Illinois named Katie Abraham and Chloe Polzin were killed in a hit-and-run crash involving an illegal alien who was drunk driving. Their killer, an illegal alien from Guatemala, was charged with leaving the scene of a crash resulting in death, aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol, and reckless homicide.

Last October, Secretary Noem highlighted more than 140 illegal alien truckdrivers who were arrested in Northwest Indiana during Operation Midway Blitz. These aliens were found guilty of numerous crimes, including driving under the influence, drug trafficking, theft, burglary, assault, child abuse, domestic battery, prostitution, and fraud. More than 40 of them had been issued a commercial driver's license by States like California, Illinois, and New York. It is clear that these States are not conducting due diligence if they are issuing commercial driver's licenses to illegal aliens who threaten the safety of American citizens on our roads and highways.

Of course, Texans have not been spared the harm committed by such aliens, as we saw in the case of Arturo Cruz-Badillo. Cruz-Badillo is a Mexican national who had seven—seven—DWI convictions, a conviction for battery, and was removed from the United States three separate times. But despite all of these criminal convictions and removal for illegal entry in the United States, he was once again found reentering illegally last August, hiding in a commercial cargo trailer. He was sentenced to jail earlier this year for his crimes.

On top of the revolving door of removals because of how different States treat DUI and DWI offenses, some aliens are convicted multiple times but never removed from the United States.

As recently as last month, ICE arrested 118 illegal aliens in California, including pedophiles, burglars, domestic abusers, and serial drunk drivers. One of these offenders had four separate DUI convictions, including one that caused bodily injury. He was also convicted of driving with a suspended driver's license. Another was convicted of a DUI, a hit-and-run, and driving without a license. Yet another was convicted of causing injury to a child, a hit-and-run causing property damage, and two DUIs, driving under the influence. Finally, one of these criminals was convicted of DUI causing great bodily injury, a hit-and-run causing property damage, and a separate DUI.

Consider how devastating a car accident can be even if there are no phys-

ical injuries. These accidents cause not only bodily injury but property damage to a person's car, and it must either be repaired or replaced, often costing hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

In the case of a hit-and-run, the situation is even more difficult because the victim cannot get the insurance information, if it exists, from the driver at fault in order to have the damage paid for.

For the one in four American households who lives paycheck to paycheck, an unexpected car accident might mean having to choose between repairing their car or paying their rent.

Of course, if the driver at fault is an illegal alien, it is more likely to be a hit-and-run because they don't want to be detained or deported. And even if they are caught, they are not likely to have insurance.

As a father of two daughters, I believe the danger illegal aliens pose to the safety of Americans is simply unacceptable. It ought to be unacceptable to all of us and not tolerated. For this reason, I am introducing the Stop Illegal Aliens Drunk Driving Act to address this discrepancy in Federal law where these DUIs—repetitive driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated—are simply winked at or ignored.

This bill would make DUI and DWI offenses that result in death or bodily injury an aggravated felony under the Immigration and Nationality Act. Aggravated felons are subject to mandatory detention. They are also ineligible for most immigration benefits.

Furthermore, this bill would ensure that any illegal alien removed from the United States as an aggravated felon due to a DUI or DWI who attempts to reenter illegally is subject to a penalty of up to 20 years in prison.

Americans deserve to be safe while driving on our roads. Parents should not have to worry, when they give their 16-year-old the keys to the car—who has learned how to drive or is just getting their first driver's license—they shouldn't have to worry whether an illegal alien driving under the influence of alcohol is going to cause them bodily harm or kill them outright.

We simply cannot continue the status quo of allowing aliens who entered our country illegally or were allowed by the Biden administration's open border policies and who decide to drive drunk or under the influence—we can't allow them to continue to endanger the American public in this way. For this reason, I hope all of my colleagues will join me and support the Stop Illegal Aliens Drunk Driving Act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be able to complete my remarks before the scheduled recess.

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

#### HEALTHCARE

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today because this President is poised to strip away healthcare from American families again. If Congress doesn't act to pass this measure, Americans will be forced to jump through more hoops just to get health insurance, and 1.8 million Americans will lose their coverage.

This is just more of the same from Republicans and the President. Donald Trump and Republicans have spent over a decade trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act entirely, with no plan to replace it. When they haven't been able to repeal it wholesale, Republicans have looked for ways to attack and weaken the Affordable Care Act from the inside out.

And this is just what the administration did with this rule. They are chipping away at the Affordable Care Act and taking away healthcare from Wisconsin families.

While President Trump works out his concept of a plan, Republicans still have no real proposal on healthcare. Even if they could repeal the Affordable Care Act, they have nothing to protect the 24 million Americans who got coverage on healthcare.gov from being simply kicked off their insurance.

“Concepts of a plan” simply are not good enough for the people that I represent. They deserve better. In fact, they need some breathing room and lower costs.

Instead of meeting families where they are and lowering costs, Republicans are taking us in the wrong direction. At the start of this year, 22 million Americans saw their premiums go up in 2026 because Republicans refused to extend tax breaks to help families afford their healthcare.

Behind every 1 of those 22 million Americans is a story—a family forced to make impossible choices about finances, their health, and their future. I am talking about folks like Nancy and John from Park Falls, WI, whose premiums were set to increase by over \$2,000 each month in 2026.

Nancy wrote to me:

This is absolutely unaffordable!! Literally we cannot pay this. We would have to sell our home and our vehicles in order to just come up with the money to do that.

Another constituent from Barron County, WI, wrote to me sharing that without the tax breaks, he would have to spend over 40 percent—get that: 40 percent—of his income on health insurance alone just to ensure his wife could continue to get her treatment for her breast cancer.

I also heard from Eric and his wife in Menomonie, WI. They both retired from teaching after 30 years and are still not yet eligible for Medicare. He

wrote to me that they were seriously considering going without any health insurance since paying close to \$3,000 a month on a fixed income might just break the bank.

Republicans ran out the clock on helping families like these, and the final window to get coverage for this year ends in just 2 days on January 15. How many Americans like Eric or Nancy are being forced to give up their health insurance this year? How many more will consider selling their houses or their cars just to make sure that they can afford sometimes lifesaving care?

Now, on top of this, the Trump administration is pushing a rule to kick even more families off of their healthcare. The rule we are talking about today would shorten the open enrollment periods and introduce much more redtape, locking eligible families out of getting their health insurance.

We should be making it easier, not harder, for Americans to see a doctor. We should be making healthcare more affordable, not more expensive.

Over the past year, I have talked to countless constituents who are sick and tired of Republicans' constant attacks on their healthcare.

Instead of spending time coming up with new ways to kick Americans off Affordable Care Act plans, I urge my Republican colleagues to help us reverse this disastrous rule and actually start working with us to fix our broken healthcare system.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks prior to the scheduled recess.

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

#### ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, for months, I have been raising the alarm over radical Islam infiltrating the greatest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America.

Some Americans see what is happening in Europe, and they think, would that ever happen in our country? The reality is, yes. It is happening right now, right before our very eyes. The enemy is now inside the gates.

There are plenty of Muslims that come here, love this country, assimilate into American culture, and they have a duty to join in the fight and speak out against the mainstream media and elected officials who are empowering radical Islam to take a foothold in the United States of America.

Governor Kathy Hochul of New York welcomed in the new year by declaring January as Muslim American Heritage Month. To red-blooded American patriots' dismay, Hochul directed State landmarks, including the iconic skyline of New York City, to be lit in the color Islamic green.

What makes the situation even worse is that One World Trade Center was also lit up in Islamic green, as you see

here—the exact location where Islamic terrorists flew planes into the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001, killing thousands of innocent Americans. You know, this was a slap in the face of the families of the nearly 3,000 victims who were murdered and the thousands injured on that very, very tragic day.

I never thought I would see something like this in my lifetime. But for years, the radical left, the globalists, and the deep state have colluded to destroy this country and have found a way to flood our communities with third-world Muslims whose only goal is not to assimilate but to destroy the West and create a worldwide caliphate. If you don't understand what that looks like, just take a look at Europe.

Under Barack Obama and Joe Biden, our Federal Government imported millions of foreigners who hate America, enabling them to live on welfare and forcing American taxpayers to pay the bills.

New York City's recent mayoral election reveals how easily a Muslim communist can come to power in our Nation's most iconic city. You know, foreign-born, communist mayor Zohran Mamdani polled 62 percent of support from foreign-born voters in New York. They weren't born in the State of New York. They weren't born in our country. Sixty-two percent of them supported him. Only 30 percent of American-born voters voted for him.

Under Joe Biden, millions of illegal aliens, including terrorists, murders, and rapists, were planted there to completely destroy the freedom-loving voter base, all on purpose. As a result, a foreign-born, Muslim communist who hates the greatest Nation on Earth and wants to change it is now in power.

During his inaugural ceremony, commie Mamdani used two Qurans for his swearing-in ceremony, not the Bible. He used a book that advocates for the killing of all who don't believe in Islam or refuse to follow Islamic teachings. He was also sworn in at an abandoned subway—a subway station symbolizing what New York City will soon look like when freedom-loving Americans flee for their lives and Sharia law becomes the rule of law in the five boroughs in New York City.

New York City, the symbol of liberty and freedom in the new world, is now turning into the same oppressive hellhole freedom-loving immigrants have fled from for centuries. They have been running from it. But now we are changing into that same situation.

The deep state hasn't wasted any time in 2026 to accelerate its globalist agenda to destroy this country. And if we don't do something to stop this Islamic takeover of our country, we will soon be called the United Caliphate of America. That means Christians, Jews, and anyone else who doesn't convert to Islam will be prosecuted and persecuted. It will be acceptable for young girls and women to be raped, and Islamic terrorism and violence will become the norm.

Thankfully, President Trump and his administration are working day and night to save this country through mass deportation, revoking immigrant visas, and implementing travel bans on majority-Muslim countries that support the radical Islam crowds who chant "Death to America."

We continue to see more evidence come out of Muslim third world foreigners defrauding American people of their hard-earned tax dollars. Thanks to independent journalist Nick Shirley, more and more fraud from Somali immigrants in Minnesota who are pretending to use the money to feed children or help people with autism is being exposed every day now.

In a recent hearing in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, testimony from a Minnesota State representative claimed that U.S. attorney Joe Thompson estimates that the total amount of criminal fraud to this point, after 5 years, has reached \$9 billion. That is billion with a "b."

Minnesota's attorney general said this weekend on CNN in an interview that, you know, the fraud estimation is not a serious thing and that is just political theater.

That is expensive political theater.

A statement like that is not only an insult to many, many Minnesotans, but it is also a slap in the face to the hard-working taxpayers of this country. What is taking place in Minnesota is pure evil, and it is straight from the pit of Hell.

It is impressive to me that a 23-year-old independent journalist did more to serve the American people with investigative reporting than the so-called experts in the legacy media. Where are they?

The fake news is complicit with the radical Islamic takeover of the United States, and they are in on the scam on the American taxpayers.

Thanks to Nick Shirley's efforts, more fraud is being exposed in other States.

FOX News recently reported that Somalia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, now serving as President of the U.N. Security Council, is linked to an Ohio home healthcare agency that has previously been punished for its ties to massive fraud.

There are other reports surfacing about Somalia's Minister of Foreign Affairs running a healthcare company in Toledo, OH, who has a business partner that works for a Somali money transfer service which has been accused of financing Islamic terrorism.

You can't make this up. It goes on and on. So here is more. For months, a new publication in the State of Maine known as the Maine Wire reported on a similar event taking place in Lewiston, ME, also known today as Little Mogadishu. Gateway Community Services, founded by a Somali refugee, received \$28.8 million in MaineCare payments between 2019 and 2024—\$28 million. Last year, a whistleblower came forward alleging that the organization systematically defrauded the

MaineCare Program for the last 5 years. Thanks to the hard work of the Trump administration, funding has stopped, and the organization is under severe investigation.

As more of this comes to light, a couple facts are becoming more and more apparent. No. 1, third world foreigners from predominantly Muslim countries are coming here and stealing American tax dollars while they spew anti-American rhetoric. No. 2, Democratic elected officials seem to be complicit in helping foreigners who hate this country steal from their own constituents, their own people who vote for them.

The enemies of our country are robbing American citizens in broad daylight, while the cost-of-living standards in our country skyrocket higher than they should be, and healthcare premiums go up year after year. That should make every single American's blood boil.

But Democrats have invited terrorists from countries that hate us. They steal our benefits. They enjoy our schools, overrun our hospitals, vote in our elections, and then steal our tax dollars and send them back to the country they came from, where they can fund terrorism.

Thankfully, we have a President who loves this country and is going to change it. President Trump and his administration are working around the clock to halt immigration and to stop fraudulent schemes that were allowed to take place under Joe Biden.

Patriotic Americans are thankful for the work of DHS and ICE and what they are doing to clean up our streets—at a cost. DHS and ICE agents have been targeted by radicals because they are enforcing the law—what a thought. And I will continue to support law enforcement until every single illegal is out of this country and comes here the right way.

If you are going to interfere in law enforcement's ability to do their jobs, folks, in any way, don't be surprised if you are arrested and thrown into jail—and you should be.

Thanks to investigative reporters like Nick Shirley and folks at the Maine Wire, we are slowly turning the tide on fraud and corruption. Deep state and the fake news media and third-world Islamists are eroding our country from within.

We need to wake up. American citizens need to recognize what is going on and say: Enough is enough.

As long as I am alive, I will fight to ensure that my granddaughter Rosie Grace can grow up in the same country that I and a lot of people had the chance to grow up in—the greatest country on the face of the Earth. And what I am telling people across this country and what should have happened in Europe years ago: Folks, wake up. They are here. The enemy is inside the gate. We are in bad trouble. And if we don't stop it, we will lose this country that has been built for 250 years.

I yield the floor.

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:47 p.m. recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES RELATING TO "PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; MARKETPLACE INTEGRITY AND AFFORDABILITY"—Motion to Proceed—Continued

## VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on the motion to proceed.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 8 Leg.]

## YEAS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Luján	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padiilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

## NAYS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	McCormick	Young
Ernst	Moody	
Fischer	Moreno	

## NOT VOTING—1

Moran

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The Senator from Delaware.

## HONORING CORPORAL GRADE ONE MATTHEW "TY" SNOOK

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects and to honor the memory of an incredible Delawarean and a genuine hero.

"I am anxious," he wrote, "to begin a life of service and commitment to making Delaware a safer place"—a safer place "to live, [to] work, [to] visit, and raise a family."

Delaware State Police Corporal Ty Snook wrote those words before he left the police academy, and it laid out his hope, his vision for service.

I am anxious to begin a life of service and commitment to making Delaware a safer place to live, work, and raise a family.

Delaware State Police Corporal Grade One Ty Snook wrote those words as a cadet late in his time in the police academy, and it laid out his vision for the life he lived committed to protecting and serving the people of my home State.

Two days before Christmas, Corporal Snook volunteered to work an extra shift at the DMV. He was working to make some extra money for his wife and young daughter, and he was volunteering to protect people so that they could make it home to their families in the rush before Christmas. He never made it home to his. A gunman walked into the DMV and, from a blind angle, shot and killed Corporal Snook—his last act, pushing a DMV employee behind him, shielding their life with his own.

What makes a hero? Someone whose instinct is protection. Someone whose service is about loving others, even when faced with mortal pain and fear. Corporal Snook's family and friends knew a hero, but his last actions were not all that he was. He was a father to Letty, a husband to Lauren, a big brother to his brother Josh, a big brother to his sister Kassi, a son to Matthew and Karen, a friend to so many.

He was a person with a big heart and a big personality who was always the center of attention and fun but who dedicated his time to celebrating the successes of others and mentoring others. A standout athlete, he was a Delaware wrestling champion. At Saint Mark's, he improved and improved and improved in his wrestling and then went to the University of Maryland on a wrestling scholarship, a D1 school, a great program.

He knew how to make everyone feel at ease and to laugh, how to help others by showing them the way. He stood out for his mentorship of others, celebrating his teammates' victories and successes and improvement as much as his own.

His sister Kassi said: Ty always did the right thing.

And his brother Josh said: All I ever wanted was to be more like him.

His brother Josh also serves in the Delaware State Police.

Corporal Snook is from a remarkable family, a family driven by service and