being proposed is going to hammer employers with an 8 percent penalty if they don't provide health care.

Well, so they're going to turn around and provide health care because the people I know are saying, We're just hanging on. We've got these good workers. We don't want to lose them. So if I'm going to be penalized 8 percent, I'll have to provide health care; but I'm going to have to reduce their wages by the amount the health care costs. It may be $5,000 or $6,000.

And I'm begging my friends on the other side—this is my plea, Mr. Speaker—don't take $5,000 or $6,000 of wages from the lowest-wage earners right now. Don't force small businesses—and I know there is an exemption at the low end—but smaller businesses are still going to have to either lay people off, pay an 8 percent penalty, or take wages away.

Don't hurt our lower-wage workers.

HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. WEINER. You know, I would say to the American people who are watching the oncoming debate about health care that in many ways we already know what the two sides are—the Republic Party, the party that opposed the Medicare Act, opposed Social Security, opposed Medicaid. The Republic Party has made it very clear they're not only the Party of No; they're the party of ignoring the problems of the middle class and those struggling to make it.

The Democratic Party, the party that is producing this legislation, is the party that has again and again said, We're going to step up to the challenges facing this country.

Now, if you believe that we are spending just the right amount, that we're not spending too much money on health care, you're alone, because I think we're spending trillions upon trillions of dollars more than we need to. If you think that the hundreds of billions of dollars people are paying for out-of-pocket is just right, then you probably want the Republic Party's plan, which is to do nothing.

But the Democratic Party under the leadership of FRANK PALLONE and Barack Obama and others are saying, We're going to try to solve this problem. You know why? Because that's what we do. That's what Democrats do.

Now the Republic Party doesn't do that. They say, No, no, no. But we have a problem. If you want choice, if you want affordability, and if you want health care for your family, you're going to get it with the Democratic Party, not with the Republic Party.

SPEND, SPEND, SPEND

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. The last speaker just talked about what the Republicans want to do. Well, what the Democrats want to do is spend, spend, spend. And I gave a little math lesson yesterday, and I'd like to revisit that today, Mr. Speaker.

You know, we talk about millions of dollars and we talk about billions of dollars and we talk about trillions of dollars. The more you hear those words, they just become words, and you don't realize how much money that is.

A million seconds equals a little over 11 days. A billion seconds is 31 years and 8 months. A trillion seconds is 31,710 years. If I gave you $1,000 a second, it would take me 31.7 years to give you $1 trillion at $1,000 a second.

We're not the Party of No. We're the party of doing what we can afford. The Democrats are the party of throwing money at any problem that comes about, with no regard to what it's costing the American taxpayer.

TAKING CONTROL OF SKYROCKETING COSTS

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, any meaningful attempts to create long-term, sustainable health care reform must begin by taking control of our skyrocketing costs. That means we must get serious about combating obesity, a preventable disease that costs this country $117 billion. To that end, I have introduced two pieces of legislation.

The first bill is called the Obesity Treatment and Wellness Act of 2009, which addresses the fact that half the costs associated with obesity are paid through Medicare and Medicaid. My legislation directs Medicaid to pay for nutrition counseling, which can effectively treat this disease.

My second bill, the Healthy Communities Act of 2009, sets up a 5-year public-private community grant program to encourage a community approach to promoting wellness and fighting obesity.

Mr. Speaker, only when we make wellness a major component of our reform efforts can we expect to get control of costs. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to ensure quality, affordable health care that works for all Americans.

HIGH-QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE CHOICES

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, opponents of health care reform have tried for months to attack our efforts to bring high-quality, affordable care to all Americans. Their favorite scare tactic has been to allege that a public option will somehow lead to a ''government takeover'' of health care. This could not be further from the truth.

Under the plan we introduced yesterday, the CBO projects that just 3 percent of Americans will be enrolled in the public plan once it is fully implemented, hardly a government takeover. In fact, the CBO estimates that employer-provided plans will have millions of new enrollees under the legislation and that most of those Americans using the health care exchange will choose private insurance for their coverage.

This is a uniquely American solution that combines the best of the public and private sectors to bring some much-needed competition to the health care marketplace, giving American families the peace of mind of knowing they will always have high-quality, affordable health care choices.

AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR AMERICAN HEALTH

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, we urgently need to fix the health care system for American families. Every day, Americans worry not simply about getting well, but whether they can afford to get the kind of health care they need. For American businesses, soaring health care costs put American companies at a competitive disadvantage in a global economy. For our fiscal future we have the most expensive health care system in the world.

We're emphasizing cost, choice, security, and quality. We want a policy that costs less, covers more, and is quality. Your choice. You have it. If you like it, you keep it. For security and peace of mind, for quality patient-centered care, we want American solutions for American health.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 23, nays 361, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 537]

YEAS—23

Bartlett	Gingrey (GA)	Shadegg
Barton (TX)	Gohmert	Souder
Blackburn	Hensarling	Spratt
Broun (GA)	Johnson (IL)	Thornberry
Campbell	King (IA)	Tiahrt
Chaffetz	Olson	Westmoreland
Flake	Pence	Young (AK)
Garrett (NJ)	Price (GA)	