

GOVERNMENT-RUN HEALTH CARE WILL COST MORE JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Democrats have painted a target on the backs of America's small businesses. As unemployment rises, 2.6 million jobs have been lost since January. Democrats continue to propose policies that will kill jobs.

First there was cap-and-tax, which will skyrocket electric bills, gas prices and food prices, and make American businesses less competitive. Now they have a government-run health care full of tax hikes and mandates on small businesses, which the NFIB estimates will cost 1.6 million more jobs lost.

Small businesses create the majority of jobs in this country. They are doing the best they can in this tough economy, but all they hear from Democrats is pay higher taxes. Democrats should stop feeding Big Government and start providing relief to small businesses.

Where are the jobs? We need health care reforms that help more Americans regardless of their preexisting conditions, help small businesses provide insurance for their employees, and keep in place an innovative side of our health care system.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

□ 1230

DO YOU FEEL LUCKY?

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

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. You've heard the commercial: Don't support government health care.

So the question that you need to ask yourself then is, Do I feel lucky? Do I feel lucky that I won't be one of the 14,000 people a day who lose their jobs and can't afford health insurance, that I won't have such a high deductible that I avoid preventive care and end up with end-stage cancer because I didn't go to the doctor. Well, am I lucky?

Do I feel lucky that Junior won't break a bone and I end up in the emergency room with a \$5,000 bill? Do I feel lucky that I won't go bankrupt from my health care problems? Do I feel lucky that I won't have some pre-existing condition that prevents me from getting a new job? Do I feel lucky that my health care premium won't grow three times faster than my salary?

The American economy is in the intensive care unit. The disease is the high cost of health care, and the medicine is health care reform.

RISING UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, last week my home State of Minnesota saw the unemployment rate rise once again, while seeing its exports drop by almost 20 percent from just 1 year ago.

The number one priority of this Congress and this administration should be job creation. But it's clear that the economic stimulus policies being pursued in Washington are failing. Congress has missed important opportunities to pursue real policies that will put Minnesotans and Americans back to work.

Instead, we've seen reckless spending and reckless borrowing at unprecedented rates, so much so that the fact now is that every man, woman and child in our country owes over \$37,000 as their share of the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, we should be reforming health care without throwing even more new taxes on the backs of families and small businesses, and we should be giving priority to helping small businesses, our number one job creators, to put Minnesotans and Americans back to work.

APOLLO MOON LANDING IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF ST. LOUIS PRIDE

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Science and Technology Committee, I rise today to remember the 40th anniversary of the Apollo Moon landing and the deep sense of pride it gave our Nation.

I, like all Americans, watched with amazement as Neil Armstrong declared: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." That moment demonstrates the magnitude of American know-how, ingenuity, innovation and our ability to rise to a great challenge.

My home city of St. Louis, Missouri, was instrumental in the success of that Moon mission, serving as home to then-McDonnell Douglas, which manufactured components for the third-stage booster rocket for Saturn V. That third-stage booster rocket launched those brave astronauts into lunar orbit, making the historic journey possible.

Now it's time to lead the world once again in innovation and science technology, especially as we transition to a new clean energy economy. Americans are ready to be called to action for a great challenge again.

HEALTH CARE REFORM A PRESCRIPTION FOR DISASTER

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, when the economic stimulus plan was passed earlier this year, the

American people were told that we had to act immediately because of our economic crisis. We were also told that that plan would create or save 3 million jobs and that the unemployment rate would not rise above 8 percent, and that we had to act so fast that actually not one Member of this House or the American people had a chance to read the bill.

And what has actually happened since that time?

Well, the economy hasn't gained 3 million jobs. It's actually lost 3 million jobs. Where are the jobs?

Unemployment is almost 10 percent. In my home State of Michigan, it is 15.2 percent today, and \$787 billion has been added to our national debt and we have an annual deficit approaching \$2 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, now we're being told that we need to pass health care reform immediately because we're in a crisis. We're told that it will be deficit neutral because it includes massive new taxes on individuals and small businesses. But CBO says that it will actually increase the deficit, Mr. Speaker, while others say that it will force millions of Americans out of their private health insurance.

We do need to reform our health care system, but doing it in such a panic mode is a recipe for disaster.

EMPLOYER MANDATE HARDSHIP

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, our economy is struggling, and unemployment is near 10 percent. Yet the health care proposal being considered in Congress asks our job creators, the small businesses of America across this country, to pay a new 8 percent tax.

Last week, in the Ways and Means Committee, I proposed to exempt small businesses from this penalty tax if it would result in businesses having to lay off workers, cut wages, or reduce jobs.

America's businesses are hurting, and we're asking them to pay more taxes? Yet, my amendment was rejected. Requiring small businesses to pay a penalty tax is no way to help them stay in business and create jobs. American workers will be harmed. Workers will bear the new cost through lost jobs and smaller wages.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill. Americans need the confidence that their jobs are not in jeopardy, that we are working to protect and strengthen their health care, while supporting the small businesses that create jobs.

And these aren't speaking points. That's just some straight shooting from the sheriff.

STABILIZING OUR ECONOMY

(Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado asked and was given permission to address