

stimulate the economy and to produce jobs, the best benefit of all, which is a job.

Despite all of the promises of a green job revolution and the millions of jobs that would be saved or created because of the economic stimulus package, the number of jobs since President Obama took office has gone off a cliff.

Republicans have called for an immediate end to the tax on unemployment benefits, which would surely help those who have been hurt by this recession. We have also called for tax relief for small businesses who can use that money to create jobs. These measures can improve our economy immediately.

American small businesses are the most innovative in the world and will pull us out of this recession if we allow them, but Democrats seem determined to prevent any recovery from occurring. In the past month, they moved to bludgeon our economy with a national energy tax and tax on small business to finance massive new health care entitlements.

Enough is enough. Create jobs.

JOBS, THE ECONOMY, AND THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, over 6 months ago, my Democrat colleagues and the Obama administration told the American people that if we passed the \$1.2 trillion stimulus package, it would create jobs, halt the growing unemployment rate, and turn our economy around; yet here we are today with a 9.5 percent unemployment rate—the highest in 26 years—and a record \$1.1 trillion deficit that is growing and expected to be \$2 trillion by year's end.

And yet this administration and Democrats want to push through another \$1.2 trillion health care package, a health care package that, according to the President's own economic adviser, will result in 4.7 million people losing their jobs.

Just a few weeks ago when talking about the stimulus package, Vice President BIDEN said for the Obama administration, Well, we just guessed wrong.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think that the American people can really afford for this Congress or this administration to guess wrong again. We need to make sure that we find the jobs in this country, not tax and spend.

DEAD WRONG ON HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, listen. Listen with me and see if we can hear the sounds of jobs. Shhh, shhh, shhh, shhh. You gotta listen real close. Quiet. Well, I'm not hearing anything.

The administration told us in this House months ago that if the American people stood in favor of the stimulus package that unemployment would peak at 8 percent, and yet here in Illinois, the State that I represent, we've now eclipsed 10 percent.

We were told that the cost curve would be broken if only we would follow the administration's health care plan and it would be the salvation of small business, and yet the Congressional Budget Office came into the Ways and Means Committee last week, Mr. Speaker, and said that was dead wrong.

The question that has to be asked and has to be answered is one that we've heard no answer today from the other side: Where are the jobs?

There are no jobs. This is an administration that has pumped sunshine for months and has failed to follow through, and we ought not follow these brake lights right over the cliff.

We know what we need to do, and that is stand for small business and vote against this plan.

BRING HEALTH CARE COSTS DOWN

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, rising health care costs are a serious problem, but the Democrat bill being advanced in the House proposes \$1.2 trillion in additional spending on health care coupled with massive tax increases that would hurt small business and middle class families.

The Democrat new 8 percent payroll tax will force employers to cut millions more jobs in the middle of the worst recession in decades while their surtax would push my State of California's top income tax rate to over 56 percent, higher than even that of France's. And those tax hikes won't even cover the full costs of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, we need real reform that brings down health care costs instead of pouring more money into a broken system.

HEALTH CARE PLAN SHOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR EVERYBODY

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on Friday I offered an amendment in the Appropriations Committee that failed because every Democrat voted against it. The amendment simply stated that Members of Congress and the administration should live by the laws they impose on the American people.

Specifically, if you vote for a government-run health insurance plan, you should get a government-run health insurance plan. If it's good enough to impose health care rationing on the American people, it's certainly good

enough for you. Because it's hypocritical to vote for a government-run rationed health care plan that will be forced on everyone else while retaining a private insurance plan for yourself.

If Members don't believe they should have to live under the rationed health care plan that they're pushing, they should explain why. Kansans are upset by the possibility that they're forced on a rationed public health care plan by this Congress. They believe if it's not good enough for the people who vote for it, it's not good enough for them.

Mr. Speaker, it's time for us to reform health care by addressing defensive medicine costs, by offering market-based principles for health care, and by keeping patients and doctors in control, not Washington bureaucrats.

HEALTH CARE AND ITS FAULTY PREMISES

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, where are the jobs? Well, they certainly aren't in the Democrats' job-killing health care plan. At a time when America is suffering the worst recession in a generation, it's utterly irresponsible to propose a government takeover of our health care system and destroy millions of private sector jobs in the process.

Since the Democrats passed their stimulus package, more than 2 million American jobs have been lost, and the chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisors, Dr. Christina Romer, has suggested that the tax hikes on businesses that will be required to pay for the Democratic health care plan will result in the loss of an additional 4.7 million jobs.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Democratic proposal will force drastic cuts in Medicare Advantage, causing millions of seniors to lose their coverage for prescription medicine, the cost of private health care will skyrocket, and the Lewin Group has estimated that nearly 114 million Americans will be forced out of their current private health care coverage and into government-run health care plans.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats' job-killing health care proposal is the wrong prescription. It will cost millions of jobs. Americans need a second opinion.

AMERICANS WANT TO SEE WHAT WE'RE DOING FOR THEM, NOT AGAINST THEM

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, the people of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of Ohio of the United States all want a job. Last year at this time, the Fifth Congressional District, according to the National Manufacturers Association, had the ninth largest