

In the Florida Keys, recreational fishermen are docking their boats permanently as the industry grapples with one of its slowest seasons in history.

There is serious trouble in paradise as hardworking small businesses and middle-class families remain uncertain about their economic future. That is why it's imperative that this Congress gets serious about providing real solutions for our constituents. They cannot afford to wait because they are looking for jobs.

WASTEFUL GOVERNMENT SPENDING IS HAVING DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES ON THIS COUNTRY

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

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President and the Democrat majority, where in the heck are the jobs? With this stimulus bill and more than \$1 trillion spent and zero job growth, where are the jobs?

With the national energy tax passed by this House, it levies billions of new energy taxes on the American people, costing the average American family \$3,100 more a year to heat and cool their home and put gas in the tank of their car. Where are the jobs?

On health care, our Democrat majority's \$1.2 trillion government takeover of our health care system mandates a one-size-fits-all, government-run health care plan on most Americans. Their plan is to nationalize our health care system and create new mandates, government bureaucracy and inefficiency that will only serve to drive up costs of our health care system even more.

Wasteful government spending is having devastating consequences on this country. It also could cost 4.7 million more jobs and hurt small business.

WE NEED TO FOCUS ON SAVING THE COUNTRY'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, when I was a young boy, a radio station went on the air in Louisville, Kentucky, and for the first week of its existence played one song over and over. It was called "Purple People Eater."

I am reminded of that event today as we've heard speaker after speaker from the other side repeat the same tired Republican talking points. What we haven't heard is one idea about how to fix our dysfunctional health care system which is threatening every business in this country, threatening our competitiveness and our long-term economic prospects.

It is time that this Congress and our colleagues from the other side focus on saving this country's health care system. We heard one gentleman from the other side saying we're facing \$38 tril-

lion in additional debt in Medicare. We're trying to make sure that that doesn't happen.

I wish our colleagues on the other side would help us in that task.

GOOD ENERGY POLICY IS GOOD JOBS POLICY

(Mrs. EMERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, in southern Missouri, rural families are struggling with job losses. We are a vibrant district with a time-honored work ethic, but job losses have hit us especially hard during a time of unprecedented economic challenges.

Constituents call my office every day, and they're asking what is Congress doing for them, how are we helping the manufacturing worker who doesn't want to go to the unemployment office because he really just wants to go back to work. And I hear a lot of justifiable anger from the same callers about Congress' policies that are going to make it tougher for them to get back to work. Cap-and-trade is the focus of their frustration and mine.

Today, unemployment is still severe in southern Missouri with the potential to go much higher, much higher, if the cap-and-trade bill becomes law. More than 3,000 jobs could be lost in the Eighth District in a single year, and the few new green jobs this bill would create won't be in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will leave with us a legacy of energy cost increases that will kill generations of jobs in rural America and in southern Missouri. Like my constituents, I am ready and willing to get to work if you will only give us the opportunity.

Good energy policy is good jobs policy. I hope we can reverse course on cap-and-trade so it doesn't destroy our rural economy.

THE HEALTH CARE BILL WILL CREATE ADDITIONAL TAXPAYER EXPENDITURES

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Last night, as the Energy and Commerce Committee met to debate the new health care reform bill offered by the Democratic Party, as I looked through the analysis by CBO, I discovered that there was a reduction in Medicare benefits over the next 10 years in excess of \$450 billion.

In addition to that, there was a reduction in reimbursements to hospitals of \$155 billion over the next 10 years.

The part of it that bothered me most is that in so many rural areas, programs like Medicare Advantage, home health care, skilled nursing care were particularly hit by these reductions.

In addition to that, this bill provides for an additional tax on employers, a tax on individuals that do not go out and buy health insurance once the

mandate goes into effect; and, still, the bill is not paid for. And as the CBO director indicated, this bill will not save taxpayer money. This bill will create additional taxpayer expenditures.

WE DON'T NEED A GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF HEALTH CARE AND WE DON'T NEED ADDITIONAL JOB LOSSES

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

Mr. SOUDER. Where are the jobs? Last week, the health care bill was passed through the Education and Labor Committee, jammed through in an all-night session; and, supposedly, it offered a public-private option.

Just a few minutes ago, we finished an Education and Labor markup. Where we once had a public-private option in direct lending, 80 percent chose the nonpublic option. So what did we just do? We eliminated the private option, and the Federal Government is going to be a giant bank, one of the biggest banks in the world, taking over all student lending.

When we talk about the needs in health care, we need to address the problems that we're facing, the gaps in the health care system, how to make it more efficient. What we don't need is a government takeover of health care with no private options. We don't need higher taxes on the small businesses and the people in my district who are struggling with a mean of 15 percent unemployment in my eight counties. We don't need additional job losses.

And this bill unbelievably had a clause added that will add more jobs for ACORN. When people in my district said they wanted more jobs, they didn't mean more jobs for ACORN.

AMERICA DEMANDS REAL REFORM

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

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it's an outrage the way health care is being approached in this country. Voters did vote for change; but, apparently, that's all they're going to have left in their pocket.

I sat through a 17-hour markup on the Ways and Means Committee last week, and I didn't see one constructive process. I didn't see the voices of Democrats and Republicans heard on addressing the delivery system for Medicare to re-engineer it to reduce billions of dollars in cost.

Instead of reforming the private insurance industry that many of us want to do on both sides, Speaker PELOSI's response to that and the Democratic response to that is we'll legislate them out of business by undercutting them with a Medicare-like system which will punish rural America.

And finally, egregiously, there's been no addressing of liability reform that