

stalled health care bill. The last time I checked, the Democrats were in control of the House; they have a 60–Member majority in the Senate, and they control the White House. Clearly, the finger needs to be pointed in a different direction or needs to be reeled in.

I wonder who the President will blame next for double-digit unemployment and for a doubled national debt. We were promised that the Democrats' \$1 trillion stimulus experiment would immediately create jobs and that unemployment would not rise above 8 percent, but in June alone, almost a half a million jobs were lost. This has driven unemployment to its highest level in 26 years.

Where are Democrats going to point their finger on that one, Mr. Speaker?

What happens when the \$646 billion energy tax that the leadership in this House has rammed through raises energy costs on every American family by over \$3,100 and when this energy tax is seen in home utility bills and at the gas pumps, costing up to 7 million Americans their jobs? They're going to lose their jobs. Which direction will the President then point his finger, Mr. Speaker?

When the administration's multitrillion-dollar health care experiment is shoved down our throats before August, costing, as the CBO says, more than 750,000 jobs, I ask again: Which direction will the President point his finger?

The bottom line is that, instead of playing the blame game, I urge congressional leadership and this administration not to ignore the recent deficit and the unemployment news. I urge them to scrap this multitrillion-dollar government health care experiment and takeover. I urge them, instead, to work with us Republicans. Work with us across the aisle to develop a health care plan that helps small businesses create jobs instead of taking away jobs and one that gives Americans better access to lower insurance costs. Work with us to rein in spending and to rein in this egregious, outrageous Federal debt. Work with us to institute meaningful reforms that will truly stimulate the economic growth and that will create jobs for all Americans and that will not just create more bureaucracy. Work with us, Mr. Speaker, Madam Speaker, Democratic colleagues. Work with Republicans.

We are accused by the Democrats of being the Party of No, n-o, but Republicans are the Party of Know, k-n-o-w. We know how to create jobs and how to stimulate the economy. We know how to lower the costs of all health care expenses for Americans all across this Nation. We know how to help small businesses by leaving dollars in their pockets, by cutting their tax base and by giving them the money they need to create new jobs and to buy inventory. We know how to stimulate the economy by leaving dollars in people's pockets so that they can invest in their children's futures and in their children's college education funds, so they

can pay off credit card debts, so they can buy new cars and buy new homes. Those are the things that will create a stronger economy.

The Republicans have presented alternative after alternative to the Democrats' plan, but our plans are being quashed by the Democratic leadership, and won't see the light of day. It's not fair to the American people that their Representatives are shut out of the debate.

Mr. Speaker, we need to return to regular order. We need to go through what historically has happened in this House so that we have appropriations bills that are presented here with an open rule so that Members can present their amendments. We need to go through regular order, and we need to stop bringing big bills to this floor through the suspension process where they don't have any vetting in the committee process. We need to return to regular order and to go back to what this country was founded upon, and that's freedom and democracy.

THE PRESIDENT PROMISED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the President over the past few days has been telling the American people, Trust me. This health care plan we're talking about is going to be a great thing for America. It's not going to cost Americans a lot of money. It's going to provide better quality of care, and nobody will be left out.

So I decided to go through what the President has promised on other occasions just to see if he deviates from his plans when it's more convenient for him. For instance, let's just go through some of the things he has promised.

He said Americans and the Members of Congress would get 5 days to read bills that were going to affect the American people. We've had bills that we didn't get until 3 a.m. in the morning that were 1,100-pages long, and we had to vote on them that very same day. There's no way to read 1,100 pages of legalese and have them understood in just a few hours.

He said no lobbyists would be in his administration. There are lobbyists, a number of them, in his administration. He said no taxes on those making under \$250,000. That's not true. We've already levied taxes on people making under \$250,000.

He said no earmarks and no pork-barrel projects. In the omnibus spending bill which he signed recently, there were 8,000 pork-barrel projects in that bill. He said there was going to be openness in the health care debate. There has been not a great deal of openness, and a lot of it has been conducted behind closed doors. He said the people were going to see almost every aspect of it because he was going to have roundtable discussions throughout the entire debate.

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He said he was going to cull spending and there would be no new taxes on people under \$250,000. This is the highest amount of spending since World War II. There's been \$1.4 trillion in new taxes. He said he was going to cut each budget of each cabinet by a hundred million dollars. That has not yet been accomplished. He said he was going to try to block and oversee the problems with the TARP plan, that \$700 billion. He said there would be no Big Government, but there's been a takeover of the auto industry, the financial industry, the energy industry, the health care industry, and it's the largest budget in history that he proposes.

He said that he would allow people to withdraw from their 401(k) accounts without any penalty if they were unemployed and having a difficult time. That was not in the stimulus bill. He said there would be a \$3,000 tax credit for every person hired by business. That was not in the stimulus bill.

And then, of course, we come to the health care plan. He said this plan is going to be very good for America, and I want all of my colleagues to take a good look at this plan of the Democrats' health care proposal which the President supports. All of the white spots are new agencies that are going to be making determinations about people's health care. It looks more like a roadmap that's been messed up. You can't figure it out. You have to go from here over to there to get health care, and it's going to cost a great deal of money.

In fact, the plan is supposed to cost, we believe, between 1 and 3 trillion dollars, that's 1 and 3 trillion dollars that we don't have that's going to have to be raised through tax increases and fees, and this is going to be part of it. They're going to end up taxing everybody for this health care plan.

And finally, this is going to result in about 4.7 million jobs lost, because when small business in America has to pay for this conglomeration of health care, they're going to have to cut back on employment of their employees, and a lot of those jobs will probably go overseas.

This is a terrible thing for America right now. And the reason I bring all of the things up that the President has promised, he's promising the American people a very good health plan. Trust him, everything is going to be fine. There is nothing to worry about. And yet it's going to cost so much money, it's going to cost rationing of health care, and it's going to cost everybody in this country and the future generations a great deal of money that we don't have. And I think that is a heck of a legacy to leave to our young children and our posterity.

I want to end by reading what was in the Wall Street Journal on the front page: Congress' chief budget scorekeeper casts a new cloud over Democrats' efforts to overhaul the Nation's health care system, telling lawmakers

Thursday that the main proposals being considered would fail to contain costs.

They say it will, but this article and this man says it will not. It will not contain costs, one of the primary goals, and could actually worsen the problem of radically escalating medical spending.

I hope everybody in the House is paying attention to this.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BILIRAKIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE WESTERN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today, 134 Republicans came here to the floor and spoke for 1 minute each about the issue of jobs and where they had been, for, indeed, we were promised that there would be jobs that would be created and saved if we simply passed a stimulus bill and didn't take the time to read it like a couple of others we did. Unfortunately, the reality has not been quite the same. In fact, this is basically the report card that we came up with.

This administration said that if we quickly pass that huge stimulus bill, there would be some unemployment but it would only be 8 percent. In fact, the dark blue line here is what they said would be the recovery path of our economy. They said if we didn't do that, we would follow a trajectory of the light blue line and actually have 9½ percent unemployment. That is a difference of 3 million workers being

out of a job if we took the time to actually read the bill and think about it.

The sad part is, though, after 5½ months, the trajectory line is actually the red dots there, which means we are far exceeding anything that was projected whether we did the stimulus or didn't do the stimulus. In fact, you can arguably say that we might have been better off not doing anything at all.

The Vice President was correct when he said that this administration totally misread the economy. Nonetheless, Speaker PELOSI and President Obama have teamed together to put up the largest budget, and we're still in the process of voting for it. We are on track now, Mr. Speaker, of actually spending \$4 trillion in this year's Congress. We are spending money like it was Monopoly money with the possible exception that you can't pass go and you don't get \$200 every time you do it.

To put this kind of concept in place, at \$4 trillion, we would be spending \$1 billion every 2.2 hours. To put it in perspective again, if you tried to pay off \$4 trillion, that means every single household in America would have to cough up 35 grand to cover it. And the problem that we have with that is simply we don't have that kind of money lying around, whether we spent it or not. In fact, we will be predicted to be in a deficit. CBO scores this year's deficit at \$1.85 trillion. That's the amount of money we'll spend that we have absolutely no funds for.

Now, you can see on this chart, back there at the turn of this century, we actually had a surplus. You can notice when 9/11 hit we went into deficits. Those grey lanes are the deficits run up by the big-spending George W. Bush—at least, he was accused of that. What we have over here is what we have been spending ever since. The light red lines are the estimates of the Obama administration. The dark red lines are the estimates of our Congressional Budget Office, and they predict that this year it's \$1.85 trillion that we will overspend.

Now, this isn't perhaps the best view. This is only a 1-year shot of what we are doing as far as our finances. If we actually took a bigger view of it and tried to find all of the things we still owe, we are actually at about \$11.6 trillion in total debt. And if you add things like the bailouts and the bank rescues and the auto recovery loans we have, we're about \$23 trillion in debt, which is difficult when our total gross domestic product is about \$14 trillion.

Let me put that in a kind of perspective for you.

When we went to the Moon, if you put the money we spent on that effort to go to the Moon in today's dollars, we would have spent around \$200 billion. Everything FDR did in the New Deal to try to get us out of the old original Depression in today's dollars would be about \$500 billion. If you took everything we spent on World War II, that's about \$4 trillion. Today, we are spending, in real dollars, \$4 trillion and

a deficit of almost \$2 trillion and a total deficit of \$23 trillion of everything combined. That was not the change that we were promised.

And the proponents of the stimulus package, quite frankly, view its failure in the fact that we didn't put enough money into it and that perhaps we should have another stimulus package to spend more money. The Democrats' solution, quite frankly, is we need to spend more money. The bottom line, though, is spending money is not the same thing as creating jobs. There are other alternatives that are out there.

The Republican Party has introduced almost a thousand bills of alternatives that have never been allowed to be discussed on this floor. We had one called the no-cost stimulus bill. It was estimated that it would grow our gross domestic product by \$10 trillion and create 2 million jobs and would cost the taxpayers exactly nothing and has still yet to be allowed to be discussed on this particular floor.

Now, we come here today as part of a Western Caucus with the understanding that much of what we do in the West is a catalyst for us solving this particular problem in moving our economy ahead.

Unfortunately, this administration, which misdiagnosed what the stimulus would do, has also misdiagnosed the opportunity that so much of our public lands have offered to us. It is not an effort to try to destroy the environment, but there are enough resources we have in this country that we could create an energy policy that would indeed build real jobs.

Unfortunately, this administration looks at the gift that it has at its disposal and instead goes in the opposite direction. It creates an environmental policy that is aimed at benefiting special interest groups so that instead of our using our resources to create jobs, we actually are sacrificing jobs to a false ideology.

In this opportunity today, we are going to be talking about some of the things this administration is doing which actually harms this country and loses jobs when we have a great opportunity to try and grow jobs if we'd just use the resources that we have wisely.

I am joined and will be talking with Representative MCCLINTOCK of California. He has a unique area that deals with the forest area that has a chance of actually bringing people together for a benefit that could grow jobs, help the economy, help the environment, and for some reason, we simply are not doing it.

We will be joined later by Representative THOMPSON of Pennsylvania; not necessarily the West, but he has the same situation with a forest in Pennsylvania and, once again, the administration's misuse of land policy is costing people jobs and should not be there.

I'm joined by my good friend Representative BROWN from Georgia. He's going to try to put all this into some kind of perspective at the same time as