

between your family and your doctor is not the solution, and losing the health plan you have today is not a solution. Yet the Democrats' bill would do just that. It puts a bureaucrat between you and your doctor. It doesn't have real reform. According to independent analysis, two out of three Americans won't be able to keep their plans, and it does nothing to bring down the costs. In fact, it drives up the deficit by over \$239 billion.

Meanwhile, if you're out in places like Oregon, rural Oregon, the CEO of Asante Health System, Roy Vinyard, in southern Oregon, said the government option under the Democrats' plan would be the death knell for hospitals since it pays Medicare rates. Currently, Medicare only pays 76 percent of their hospital's costs, and yet 52 percent of their patients are on Medicare. If the percentage of Medicare-like payments increases to 75 percent of their patients, the hospital will have to close its doors.

So that plan does nothing to rein in costs. It does nothing to keep the doors open. We need to reform health care, but let's do it in a way that puts patients first and that doesn't destroy small business.

SHOW US THE BILL

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to passing a health care bill, leadership insists "this will happen." Speaker PELOSI claims to have the votes to get it passed on this floor.

If that's true, Madam Speaker, then show us the bill. If the rhetoric coming from the Democrats is true and if they're planning to steamroll a \$1 trillion health care experiment through this body before August, let's see it. Let's debate it. Let's let the Americans see it.

The American people deserve to see a bill with plenty of time for an open and honest debate about exactly what is in store for them if this partisan experiment is passed. The American people have seen enough smoke and mirrors about the Washington bureaucrat who will be inserted directly between patients and physicians. They've seen enough smoke and mirrors about how many people will be forced off of their current health care plans. They've seen enough smoke and mirrors about the real cost of this plan. If you have the votes, then clear out the smoke. Show us the bill, and finally give hard-working Americans answers to their questions.

Show us the bill, Madam Speaker.

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

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

Mrs. HALVORSON. Mr. Speaker, this Congress is responsible for putting in place one of the largest tax cuts in American history as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

We can see this benefit of the plan throughout all communities in our country. Because of this legislation, 95 percent of working Americans are receiving tax cuts through the Making Work Pay tax credit, which is a refundable tax credit of up to \$400 per worker and up to \$800 for couples filing jointly. This is an immediate tax relief for over 110 million working families at exactly the time they need it. Because of this legislation, families can also find tax relief through an expansion of the child care tax credit and through a new \$2,500 tax credit for families to help send more of our children to college.

In addition to this tax relief, the recovery plan has provided tens of millions of dollars of investment for improvement projects, like the improvements that have been made to infrastructure and to roads throughout our country.

WHO IS GOING TO PROVIDE THE HEALTH CARE?

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

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats are proposing that they're going to take over 20 percent of our economy. They're proposing they're going to spend at least \$1 trillion, probably \$2 trillion, in doing that, and they're going to put bureaucrats in charge of health care decisions. Now, this is not really a new idea. This has been tried a lot by other countries. It's called socialized medicine. So the question before us is very straightforward. It is this:

If you get sick, where do you want to be treated? Do you want to travel to Europe? Do you want to travel to Canada or do you want to stay in the good, old USA?

I had that experience 9 years ago here. I had newly been elected as a Congressman. I got the first physical I'd had in 10 years because I'd had lousy health care. They told me, Yeah, you're doing great, Congressman AKIN, except for one thing: You have cancer.

When you hear the word "cancer," it causes you to stop and think. Because of the American health care system, I'm standing here today, but I'll tell you the statistics of what would happen if you were in the United Kingdom. There is a 50 percent chance you'd be dead with the type of cancer I had. That's the question: Who is going to provide the health care?

LET'S GET THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WORKING AGAIN

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to talk about what I mentioned this last week.

Back in the 1982 recession, in my State of Kentucky, we had unemployment rates at the level of over 11 percent. My father lost his job. He was one of those who'd worked for Ford Motor Company, and they closed the plant. Because of what happened in this House back in 1982, that being cutting taxes, cutting spending and putting faith in the American people, my father went from one who had lost his job to one who was starting a business and was becoming a job creator.

What has this House done, this Democratic majority, in the last 6 months? They've made it easier to sue businesses; they've raised energy rates on businesses if it has passed the Senate; also, they've put mandates on businesses for health care coverage; and they've instituted an 8 percent payroll tax.

I believe we need to cut taxes, cut spending, put faith in the American people, create jobs, and get people working again.

THE SYSTEM IS WORKING

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

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have news for the American public. The system is working. The Congress is working. The Energy and Commerce Committee is working. The reason that the Speaker and the President can't get their health care bill through is that there is not consensus on it.

I want to congratulate the other 22 Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee who are united against this bad piece of legislation. I want to also congratulate the 7 to 10 Blue Dog Democrats and conservative Democrats on the same committee.

The reason we're not supportive of the President and the Speaker's plan is that it's bad for America. It doesn't solve the problem. It costs too much. It has got too much bureaucracy. The word "shall" is mentioned almost 2,000 times. It's a \$1 trillion hit on the economy, and it doesn't solve the problem.

We, the Republicans on the committee, have over 80 amendments that we wish to offer. Our Blue Dog friends have over 20. I asked the Speaker and Chairman WAXMAN to bring the bill up for markup. Let it be an open and transparent markup. If it takes us until September or October to get it done right, it's better to get it done right than to do it badly. The system is working.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be part of an effort to improve