

Post journalist named T.R. Reid, and he traveled around the world examining the health care systems, and he said there are three universal laws about health care reform or health care around the world. One is that no matter how good the system is for so many people, for as many people as possible, some people always complain about it. Secondly, doctors and hospitals will always complain that they are not being paid enough. And the final point was, the last reform always failed.

So we are in an imperfect arena, and we know that whatever we do here in this Congress, hopefully this year, will be far from perfect. We know that we will be working on this for as long as we are all alive, because there will be thousands of unintended consequences and unpredictable consequences of what we do.

But as my friend said, we have to start somewhere, and this is the time because we are looking at a very, very bleak picture moving forward, with tens of trillions of dollars of added debt in Medicare, with insurance premiums that are projected to increase by \$1,800 a year for the next 10 years for a family policy, which would take it in the range of \$30,000 by the end of the next decade.

And we know that the American economy, certainly not American businesses, and definitely not American families can afford that type of cost. So this is the biggest challenge, but also the biggest opportunity we have ever faced in this country.

And I am so glad, not just to be in Congress being able to work on this incredible endeavor, but also that the American people are so engaged in the process, because when the American people pay attention, the American people will respond, and they are responding with their input, with their reactions, and I think, ultimately, they will respond with their wholehearted support with the reform effort that we are engaged in.

So I would just offer the floor to my colleague, if he has any closing remarks, and then we will surrender our time.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I thank my friend, I thank him for hosting this hour. I think for me the status quo is not an option. We have to act because there are things in this system, the health care system and the way we finance it. We need insurance reform, because there are things that are broken. We need to fix what's broken. We need to improve what's working, and we need to have a system that is affordable and accessible to all Americans. And now is the time to act. We can't fade into the woodwork and hope this all makes itself better. Sometimes you have to tackle tough subjects, and people aren't going to be always right in line with you.

Now is the time for us to tackle a very tough subject, to bring the change that's needed for generations to come, to save money and provide care for in-

dividuals, for businesses and this Nation.

Mr. YARMUTH. I thank the gentleman and thank him for his participation tonight. As I said a moment ago, we are involved in an incredible historic endeavor here, and I am very appreciative of the fact that we in the class of 2006, the Majority Makers, most of whom campaigned on a platform that included affordable quality health care for all, are able to participate here with the cooperation of the American people.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009, AT PAGE H9457

RECOGNIZING THE PERSISTENTLY HIGH RATES OF DROWNING FATALITIES AMONG CHILDREN

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 57) expressing the importance of swimming lessons and recognizing the danger of drowning in the United States, especially among minority children, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 57

Whereas the success of the United States Olympic swim team, including the record-breaking eight gold medals won by Michael Phelps, has brought great attention to swimming;

Whereas a New York Times article entitled "Despite Olympic Gold, Swimming Statistics Are Grim", highlighted the irony of the United States Olympic glory in light of a shocking number of drownings in the United States;

Whereas the New York Times has also highlighted the discrepancies in swimming education between African-American children and White children in the article "Everyone Into the Water";

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there were 3,582 unintentional and fatal drownings in the United States in 2005 representing an average of 10 drowning deaths each day;

Whereas for every child who fatally drowns in the United States, there are four near-drowning incidents that require emergency care and can lead to brain damage resulting in permanent disabilities ranging from loss of memory to the loss of all basic functions;

Whereas children are the most susceptible to fatal drowning incidents with one out of four victims being 14 years old or younger;

Whereas drowning is the second most common unintentional cause of death among children ages 1 to 14;

Whereas minority drowning rates greatly exceed the rates of White children;

Whereas according to the CDC, the fatal drowning rate for African-American children between the ages of 5 and 14 is over three times higher than the rate for White children, and the rate for American Indian and Alaska Native children is over two times higher;

Whereas according to a study by the University of Memphis, almost 60 percent of African-American and Latino children do not know how to swim as compared to roughly 30 percent of White children;

Whereas long-existing stigmas regarding minorities and swimming have contributed to the lack of swimming education in minority communities, and nonswimming minority families are far less likely than nonswimming White families to enroll in swimming lessons;

Whereas according to the United States Census Bureau, in 2007, 33.7 percent of African-Americans, 28.6 percent of Latinos, and 12.5 percent of Asian-Americans lived below the poverty line as compared to 10.1 percent of Whites, and swimming lessons can cost hundreds of dollars per course;

Whereas the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act was signed into law in December 2007 addressing the pressing need for increased pool and spa safety requirements and education to prevent accidental deaths by drowning;

Whereas effective drowning prevention strategies require several approaches such as supervision, fully gated pools, CPR training, and swimming skills;

Whereas the ability to swim is an important and essential skill, and according to Safe Kids USA, in order to help prevent drowning, children should be enrolled in swimming lessons as early as age 4 to learn how to float, tread water, and enter and exit the pool; and

Whereas nonprofit initiatives, like the USA Swimming Foundation's program "Make A Splash", are working hard to meet the need for swimming lessons by partnering with local communities to offer all children access to swimming education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses the importance of access to swimming lessons for all communities in the United States as an integral part of drowning prevention;

(2) recognizes the danger of fatal unintentional drowning in the United States;

(3) condemns the persistently high rates of fatal drowning among all children, and the particularly high rates of fatal drowning among minority children;

(4) celebrates the passage of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act;

(5) celebrates the work of initiatives like USA Swimming Foundation's "Make A Splash" and Safe Kids USA to educate parents and caregivers on water safety and drowning prevention messages; and

(6) encourages public and private funding to support current and future initiatives that provide all children access to swimming education.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009, AT PAGE H9459

RECOGNIZING 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 738) recognizing the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 738

Whereas in recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, on September 13, 1994, President Bill Clinton signed the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (hereinafter referred to as "VAWA") as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994;

Whereas subsequent reauthorizations of VAWA include the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (hereinafter referred to as "VAWA 2000"), signed by President Bill Clinton, and the Violence Against Women Act and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (hereinafter referred to as "VAWA 2005"), signed by President George W. Bush;

Whereas VAWA was the first comprehensive legislative package designed to end violence against women;

Whereas the protections and provisions afforded by VAWA were subsequently expanded and improved by VAWA 2000, which created a legal assistance program for victims and expanded the definition of domestic violence crimes to include dating violence and stalking;

Whereas VAWA and interventions funded by that Act have reduced the incidence of domestic violence, have lowered sexual assault rates, and have averted societal costs by reducing the need for emergency and medical responses;

Whereas VAWA has succeeded in bringing communities together to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including combined efforts by law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, victim services, and community-based programs to develop long-term plans for addressing such crimes locally and statewide;

Whereas VAWA has provided crucial Federal support to Indian tribes to combat the problems of sexual and domestic violence in Indian country;

Whereas VAWA brings innovative practices to the field by funding demonstration projects and training, and supporting the development of specialized courts and police teams;

Whereas the Sexual Assault Services program, authorized by VAWA 2005, enabled the 1,300 rape crisis centers in the United States to reduce waiting lists, reach out to underserved communities, and provide more comprehensive services to survivors of sexual assault;

Whereas VAWA provides a means for many victims of domestic violence who were dependent on their batterers for immigration status to self-petition and obtain legal immigration status on their own, and to access legal services to flee violence and recover from trauma;

Whereas organizations throughout the United States have received grants under VAWA to provide legal assistance to young victims of dating violence;

Whereas VAWA has provided crucial Federal support for efforts by criminal justice officials and victim service providers to hold offenders accountable and to keep stalking victims safe;

Whereas the continued support of VAWA and subsequent Acts combating violence against women is essential to best serve the 3,400,000 individuals in the United States who are stalked each year; and

Whereas September 13, 2009, marked the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994;

(2) continues to support the goals and ideals of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and its subsequent reauthorization Acts; and

(3) recognizes the need to continue vigorous enforcement of the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and similar Acts and programs to deter and prosecute crimes of violence against women.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. KAPTUR) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FORBES) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, September 22.

Mrs. BACHMANN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MILLER of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, September 16.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER, for 5 minutes, today and September 16.

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, for 5 minutes, September 16 and 17.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia, for 5 minutes, September 16.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. FOX, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GOHMERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 16, 2009, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3352. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of an officer to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of major general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3353. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report to Congress specifying each Reserve component the additional items of equip-

ment that would be procured and additional military construction projects for FY 2010, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 10543(c); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3354. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a quarterly report of withdrawals or diversions of equipment from Reserve component units; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3355. A letter from the Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on the action taken by the department to identify and evaluate at all the stages of the acquisition of commercial computer software, pursuant to Public Law 110-417, section 803; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3356. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Capital Adequacy Guidelines; Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement: Treatment of Subordinated Securities Issued to the United States Treasury under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 [Regulation Y; Docket No. R-1356] received September 8, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3357. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Refrigerated Bottled or Canned Beverage Vending Machines [Docket No.: EERE-2006-STD-0125] (RIN: 1904-AB58) received September 11, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3358. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's FY 2008 annual financial report to Congress required by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act of 1992 (PDUFA); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3359. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting Food and Drug Administration's Report to Congress "Changing the Future of Drug Safety: FDA Initiatives to Strengthen and Transform the Drug Safety System"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3360. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the National Emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3361. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report to Congress on the intent to impose additional foreign policy export controls on transfers (in-country) to certain persons specified on the Entity List; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3362. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a periodic report on the National Emergency caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979 for February 26, 2008 — February 25, 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3363. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 09-44, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3364. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 09-50, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.