there seems to be reevaluation and hesitation by the administration: Do we move forward with more energy and commitment to achieve total success? Do we pack up and abandon Afghanistan heeding the cries of the weak that demand peace, peace, any price for peace? Or do we hold the line preventing success or failure?

Our commander on the ground, General McChrystal, wants more troops to ensure American victory. Meanwhile, delays, deliberation, and indecision leave our troops prey to the Taliban.

Our troops are waiting for an answer; the Afghan people are waiting. Our enemy, the Taliban, is not waiting. They are encouraged by our inaction. They believe we will falter. They're on a determined mission to spread hate and terror throughout the region.

Indecision is a recipe for failure. We would do well to remember the words of President Kennedy when he said: ''Let every nation know that we will pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty.''

America must stop the enemy of humanity.

And that's just the way it is.

## HEALTH REFORM DAILY MYTH-BUSTER: IMPACT ON SENIORS

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, there have been many myths about our health reform, and I want to give just a few facts.

Decisions about your health will be made by you, your doctor, and your family and not by anyone else.

They're saying that health care reform will lead to rationed care. Mr. Speaker, the fact is nothing will stand between you and your doctor or prevent you from making the best health care decisions yourself.

And, Mr. Speaker, there's a myth saying we can't afford to fix health care during an economic crisis. Well, rising health care costs are hurting our families and businesses now and driving up the budget deficit. If we do nothing, the cost of health care premiums will eat us up more and more. It will eat up your monthly paycheck, and the prescription drug doughnut hole won't get fixed.

## CREATING JOBS SHOULD BE TOP PRIORITY

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, creating jobs and getting America back to work should be Congress' top priority. Unemployment nears 10 percent nationally and even higher in my district. We need to keep our efforts focused on the economy.

Today, there's a report the White House is looking for tax credits for companies that create new jobs. I fully support the incentive and think the American people would as well. According to The New York Times, the Federal Government tried this approach in 1977, 1978. During that period, employment climbed at a record pace. An economic review study suggested in 1970 that the policy was responsible for creating 700,000 jobs of the 2.1 million jobs created during that period.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

## WORLD HABITAT DAY

(Mr. MILLER of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in 1985 the United Nations General Assembly designated the first Monday in October as World Habitat Day. This year, the theme is Planning Our Urban Future.

Approximately half of the world's population now lives in urban areas, and that number will rise to two-thirds in a generation. Cities can be engines for economic growth; but they can also become home to extreme poverty, disease, environmental degradation, and conflict. In many parts of the world, government policies do not adequately respond to the challenges of growing urban populations.

Nearly one-third of the world's population of people living in cities around the world now already live in slums, and that number will also rise to double what it is now in 30 years.

I rise today to honor World Habitat Day and the goal of improved urban planning. We can have a sustainable prosperous future, but only if we help the rural cities address the needs that come from explosive growth.

## ''WHITE COATS'' AT THE WHITE HOUSE

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with my white physician's coat because apparently if you're a doctor, this white coat is a prerequisite for a meeting at the White House. You can see by this photo that the White House felt so strongly about this that they actually handed out white coats to the doctors that they invited to their photo-op on Monday.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11 I requested a meeting with the President, responding to his statement before Congress that his door is always open to talk about health care reform. Many of my colleagues in the GOP Doctors Caucus have also asked for meetings.

Mr. Speaker, I am here on the floor today to say to the President, I am a doctor, and I, too, have a white coat. I would like a meeting with you to talk about health care reform because I, like so many doctors across this country, we support meaningful reform, just not a government takeover.

And, Mr. Speaker, I am here to say I can even bring my own white coat.

## SWIPE FEE LEGISLATION

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Financial Services Committee will hear testimony from Kathy Miller from the northern Vermont town of Elmore. Kathy and her husband run the Elmore Store; that is the general store, the post office, and the social hub of the small town of Elmore.

Kathy will be testifying in favor of interchange, or swipe fee, legislation which would finally prevent credit card companies from overcharging small businesses like the Millers and others around the country. With every purchase paid for by credit card, they are charged, the Millers, over 2 percent. And as they have with individuals, the credit card companies have come up with ever more reasons and gimmicks to squeeze money out of the bottom line of these small businesses.

Though the store itself in Elmore is a powerful force in the lives of the citizens, the Millers are absolutely powerless against the credit card companies and big banks. That's why Kathy Miller is coming to Washington to support legislation to end these abuses and to add fairness and transparency to swipe fees.

## ACCOUNTING GIMMICKS IN PROPOSED HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, instead of passing health care reform that lowers costs, Democrats are positioned to pass a bill that hides costs by passing them on to State taxpayers. A frightening footnote in the Congressional Budget Office report on the Senate Financial Committee bill reveals a $37 billion Medicaid mandate on State governments. Unlike the Federal Government, States can't just print money.

This $37 billion mandate will force States across the Nation to choose between deep cuts to programs or steep tax hikes. In Louisiana alone, it's $612 million over 5 years. That's $612 million less for roads, for higher education, for secondary education, for economic development.

In addition to driving States into bankruptcy, this unfunded mandate deliberately hides the bill's true cost. Whether from Federal taxes or State taxes, the American people will have to absorb this.

If the bill actually lowered costs, its author would not have to hide behind accounting gimmicks to sell the bill.