The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 10 a.m.

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, January 7, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CANDICE S. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, our God, You have shown us Your glory. You have redeemed Your people by the revelation of Your eternal Word.

Let Your light now shine within us. Guide us, that we may be led through the darkness found in this world to the radiant joy of Your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

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Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.
Madam Speaker, sending a resume to me will not put you first in line for any job, but it will put you up front and center to remind our government of the need to act.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. BENISHEK. Madam Speaker, while campaigning this fall, people in northern Michigan made it clear that they are not happy with the government takeover of health care. That’s why I’m pleased that one of my first votes in Congress will allow me to keep a promise to my constituents and vote to repeal that legislation.

As a surgeon who spent more than 30 years working directly with patients, I view the takeover of our health care system as an attack on the doctor-patient relationship. Now, as a member of the freshman class of 2011, I invite all Members to join us in repealing this law and developing realistic health care reform that lowers costs, improves options for patients, and puts a doctor-patient relationship at the center of health care.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, the Republican rules package passed Wednesday included a change that could be extremely damaging to our Nation’s highway and transit systems over the long term—and to the construction industry, where record unemployment remains twice the national average. Simply put, this rule is a job killer.

The new rule will treat highway trust fund revenue as general spending, tearing down firewalls that prevent funds from being siphoned off for unrelated projects. Removing the "trust" in the highway trust fund will severely inhibit States’ ability to plan large, multiyear transportation projects to improve this Nation’s aging infrastructure over the long term and to create construction jobs in the process.

But don’t take my word for it. The rule change is also opposed by business, labor, and industry organizations alike, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the Associated General Contractors of America, and the American Trucking Association.

Madam Speaker, this is the wrong time to back away from investments in our infrastructure and job creation; yet this is exactly what will result from this job-killing rule.

BORDER PATROL AGENTS ON THE MOVE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, more Border Patrol agents are being sent to the southern border. The border is violent, desolate, and dangerous. Drugs and people are going north. Money and weapons are going south. And the border is a war zone.

Madam Speaker, I’m not talking about the southern border of the United States with Mexico. No. I’m talking about the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. That’s correct. Secretary of Homeland Security Napolitano has said, ‘‘...We are going to contribute Border Patrol agents to protect the border of Afghanistan.’’

Now, why is Homeland Security making this uninformed decision? Our southern border is a war zone and our Border Patrol agents are not deployed there. In fact, they should send more National Guard troops there to help them stop the invasion of the violent drug cartels.

Homeland Security should protect our homeland, not somebody else’s. This ill-advised move by the Department of Homeland Security shows how blissfully ignorant Washington is about reality and the battle on the third front, the southern border of the United States.

And that’s just the way it is.

HEALTH CARE REPEAL IS NO GAME FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. In the middle of the health care debate, a gentleman came into my office in Waterbury, Connecticut, and delivered a petition signed by 3,000 people. He was fighting two battles—one against the cancer that was ravaging his body and another to keep his health insurance to prevent himself from going bankrupt. And it was even said today—that it is a government takeover of health care.

A TRIBUTE TO DON TYSON

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

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to remember one of America’s great entrepreneurs, Don Tyson of Springdale, Arkansas, who passed away Thursday, January 6, 2011, following a brief illness.

The son of Tyson Foods, Incorporated, founder John W. Tyson, Don was former chairman of the board and CEO of a company that began as a family business, supplying feed and baby chicks to local producers. It became a global food enterprise with annual sales in excess of $28 billion, over 115,000 team members, and operations in five countries. He founded the Tyson Family Foundation and is well-known for his philanthropy in the fields of education, conservation, and the arts.

Don Tyson’s “no bad days” outlook on life personifies the true definition of the pursuit of the American Dream. The State of Arkansas and the United States of America have lost an original, and we mourn the passing of this industry legend.

THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today is the beginning of a process by which the Republicans will try to repeal the affordable health care bill. It is about 50/50 in popularity in America.

How can a bill with such individual constituent elements that are so popular, such as keeping young people on your insurance until they’re 26, eliminating the doughnut hole, and seeing your insurance until they’re 26, eliminating the doughnut hole, and seeing

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, THIS IS YOUR WEEK

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1
THE CONSEQUENCES OF REPEALING HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, those who want to repeal health care reform should be clear and candid about what they are doing. You just can’t expect the people to understand the effect of repeal just because you put a label on it like “ObamaCare” or misrepresent job-creating legislation as a “job killer” or misrepresent legislation that doesn’t even have a public option in it as a “government takeover.”

Health care reform will close the doughnut hole. It allows young adults to stay on their parents’ policies. It means that those with preexisting conditions can get insurance. It provides tax credits to small businesses to help them cover their employees. It creates community health centers and additional health professions. It prohibits insurance company abuses, like cutting off coverage in the middle of illnesses or unreasonable increases in rates. It means that, in 2014, all Americans will have the security of knowing that they can have health care insurance.

You just don’t call or put a label on it or recite a poll-tested slogan. Tell the public what will happen to the doughnut hole, to young adults, to those with preexisting conditions, to small businesses. Tell the public what is going to happen if we repeal health care reform.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. R. 2, REPEALING THE JOB-KILLING HEALTH CARE LAW; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 9, INSTRUCTING CERTAIN COMMITTEES TO REPORT LEGISLATION REPLACING THE JOB-KILLING HEALTH CARE LAW; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 26 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 26

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2) to repeal the job-killing health care law and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Rules Committee accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) seven hours of debate, with 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and Minority Leader or their respective designees, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means, 4 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business; and (2) one motion to reconsider with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 9) instructing certain committees to report legislation replacing the job-killing health care law. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and any amendment therefore to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules or their respective designees; (2) the amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules, if offered by Representative Matheson of Utah. This is routinely required and is similar to many provisions that have been self-executed since the enactment of statutory PAYGO.

The resolution provides for 7 hours of debate on H.R. 2, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of six committees and the majority leader and minority leader. It also provides the minority a motion to reconsider H.R. 2 with or without instructions.

House Resolution 26 provides for consideration of H. Res. 9 under a structured rule that provides an hour of debate and makes in order an amendment, if offered by Representative Matheson of Utah. It also provides for one motion to reconsider H. Res. 9 without instructions.

Lastly, the rule provides for the consideration of a resolution if offered by the majority leader or his designee relating to the status of certain actions taken by Members-elect. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except four minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and Minority Leader or their respective designees.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, it is a great honor for me, for the first time in 4 years, to say, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my very good friend and Rules Committee colleague, the gentlewoman from Rochester, New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER). During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There was no objection.

Mr. DREIER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

0920

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, House Resolution 26 provides for a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 2 and self-executes an amendment by the majority leader, which is required under the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010. This is routinely required and is similar to many provisions that have been self-executed since the enactment of statutory PAYGO.

The resolution provides for 7 hours of debate on H.R. 2, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of six committees and the majority leader and minority leader. It also provides the minority a motion to reconsider H.R. 2 with or without instructions.

House Resolution 26 provides for consideration of H. Res. 9 under a structured rule that provides an hour of debate and makes in order an amendment, if offered by Representative Matheson of Utah. It also provides for one motion to reconsider H. Res. 9 without instructions.

Lastly, the rule provides for the consideration of a resolution if offered by the majority leader or his designee relating to the status of certain actions taken by Members-elect under a closed rule.

Madam Speaker, it was just before midnight that my great new colleague...
Mr. WEBSTER and I were here in this Chamber, and we filed this rule following a lengthy 12-hour hearing upstairs in the Rules Committee, and I have to say that there were many, many discussions that took place on a wide range of issues, but I think it’s very important to point out that there are those who argue that we should not be taking up this issue because of the fact that we should be focusing on job creation and economic growth.

We, Madam Speaker, know that the overwhelming message that came from the American people is that we have to get our economy back on track, we have to create jobs, we have to make sure that those people who are struggling to get onto the first rung of the economic ladder are able to do just that. And that’s why, when we look at a $2.7 trillion expansion of the Federal Government, $2.7 trillion in new spending, we recognize something that is common sense, and that is, if you’re going to expand the size and scope and reach of the Federal Government by that magnitude, it clearly is going to kill the effort to create jobs and get our economy back on track.

As we speak today, Madam Speaker, we are taking the first step in fulfilling a key promise that we have made to the American people. With this rule, we are setting in motion an effort to repeal President Obama’s job-killing health care bill and replace it with real solutions, and I underscore that again because all the attention is focused on the fact that we are going to be trying to kill good provisions that are out there. Madam Speaker, we want to start with a clean slate. We are going to repeal President Obama’s job-killing health care bill and replace it with real solutions.

This rule takes two important steps. The first is to allow for consideration of a repeal bill that, in the words of the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR, has been sworn in on Tuesday, the speed in which we move to repeal this job-killing bill and replace it with real solutions, and I underscore that again because all the attention is focused on the fact that we are going to be trying to kill good provisions that are out there. Madam Speaker, we want to start with a clean slate. We are going to repeal President Obama’s job-killing health care bill and replace it with real solutions.

As we speak, on the very damaging legislation that was passed last year under the guise of health care reform. The second is a resolution directing each of the committees of jurisdiction to craft legislation, scrutinizing proposals, offering amendments, participating in real debate. Critical legislation is not going to be written behind closed doors by a select few.

Today’s rule sets in motion a process that will be both transparent and collaborative, but we cannot get to that very important step without clearing the decks. We need to undo the damage that has already been done.

Now, we will hear people say why is it you’re considering this under a closed rule. Madam Speaker, this was a clear promise that was made through the very last stretch of the very important November 2 election. Everyone acknowledges that elections have consequences. The commitment was made that we would have an up-or-down vote on repeal, and that’s exactly what we are doing, and repeal is the American people’s bill before we proceed with replacement.

Just as predicted, the so-called reform bill is having very real negative consequences for our economy and our job market. It is putting enormous burdens on job creators, particularly small businesses, at a time that is already one of the most difficult that we have faced, imposing significant new burdens and penalties while the unemployment rate remains above 9 percent. We got the news just a few minutes ago that it’s at 9.3 percent. We’re encouraged by that positive drop, but only 105,000 jobs were created, not the 150,000 jobs necessary to be created just to sustain the position that we are in right now. So we still are dealing with very, very serious economic challenges, and that’s why we need to take a commonsense approach to, first, repeal this measure and then deal with solutions.

Mr. Speaker, we have to wipe the slate clean, we have to start with a clean slate, with real solutions, and do everything we can to ensure that every single American has access to quality health care and health care insurance.

Madam Speaker, the resolution lays out very clearly what real reform looks like. Real reform will help, not hinder, in our goal towards creating jobs. Real reform will lower health care costs, lower premiums by enhancing competition and patient choice. It will preserve the right of patients to keep their existing coverage if they so choose. It will ensure access to quality care for those suffering from preexisting conditions. It will reward innovation for meaningful lawsuit abuse reform, which resources can go to patients and doctors and not to trial lawyers. In short, it will increase access to health care for all Americans without compromising quality or hurting the very small business sector of our Nation’s economy.

Madam Speaker, the underlying replacement resolution which I’ve offered will begin a robust committee process to tackle the difficult but essential work of achieving these goals and crafting true reform for the American people. This will be a process in which each and every Member, Democrat and Republican alike, will have an opportunity to participate.

Madam Speaker, as Speaker BOEHNER said the day before yesterday when he accepted the gavel, we are returning to regular order. Once again, our committees will have the centers of expertise that they were intended to be. Rank-and-file Members of both parties will play an active role in crafting legislation, scrutinizing proposals, offering amendments, participating in real debate. Critical legislation is not going to be written behind closed doors by a select few.

Today’s rule sets in motion a process that will be both transparent and collaborative, but we cannot get to that very important step without clearing the decks. We need to undo the damage that has already been done.

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Ah, but all. I will say that the onerous, unworkable mandates that have been imposed are adding greater uncertainty, which is job creation’s biggest enemy. Anyone who has spent any time talking with small business owners knows this to be the case. While the economic impact is already quite apparent, the fiscal consequences are looming down the road.

While the bill’s authors used a host of accounting gimmicks—and I’m going to get into those further, as I’m sure I’m going to be challenged on this, and I look forward to talking about the accounting gimmicks that have been utilized—while the authors used a host of accounting gimmicks, and I do say that, the fiscal consequences are going to be staggering. The Budget Committee has demonstrated the real cost of the health care bill, as I said when I opened, is a staggering $2.7 trillion once it is fully implemented. It will add over $700 billion to our deficit in the first 10 years. The words “reckless,” and “unsustainable” have to cover it. This bill is an economic and fiscal disaster of unprecedented proportions.

The time to undo it before any more damage is done is quickly running out. Republicans promised the American people we would act swiftly and decisively, and that’s exactly what we’re doing.

So my friends on the other side of the aisle have asked why there will be no amendments to the repeal bill. Frankly, there is nothing to amend. There is nothing to amend. Madam Speaker, to the repeal bill. Either we’re going to wipe the slate clean and start fresh or we’re not. Now, that’s not to say there aren’t some good provisions in this bill, but it is so onerous, nearly 3,000 pages, that the best way to do this is to wipe the slate clean, have an open and transparent process, and do everything we can to ensure that every single American has access to quality health care and health care insurance.

Mr. Speaker—Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Now, once that slate is completely wiped clean, we will be ready for this open and collaborative process to develop the real solutions that we have talked about. That’s what we promised the American people as we led up to last November 2, and that’s exactly what we will deliver here today.

We first undo the damage; then we work together to implement real reform and real solutions. I urge my colleagues to support this rule and then, after we’ve gone through the 3-day layover requirement next week, which is in compliance with another promise that we made to the American people, I urge my colleagues to support the underlying legislation, H.R. 2, which our colleague, the new Majority Leader, Mr. CANTOR, has offered. It is the American people’s bill, 3-day layover requirement next week, which is in compliance with another promise that we made to the American people, I urge my colleagues to support the underlying legislation, H.R. 2, which our colleague, the new Majority Leader, Mr. CANTOR, has offered. It is the American people’s bill.

Now, Madam Speaker, first, we undo the first hurdle, which is to undo the disaster of unprecedented proportions. The words “reckless,” and “unsustainable” have to cover it. This bill is an economic and fiscal disaster of unprecedented proportions. The time to undo it before any more damage is done is quickly running out. Republicans promised the American people we would act swiftly and decisively, and that’s exactly what we’re doing.

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Mr. Speaker—Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my gentleman friend, Mr. DREIER, yielding me time. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

What a week it’s been. Since being sworn in on Tuesday, the speed in which the Republican Party is working their promises has been dizzying.

Speaking of the Republicans’ first days
in office, tea party spokesman Mark Meckler summed the week up nicely when he said, “I actually don’t think it would be possible to fall from grace any faster than this.”

In November, the Republican leadership, led by Speaker BOEHNER, traveled to suburban Virginia and made a Pledge to America. Their constituents, including tea party patriots like Mr. Meckler, listened intently as the Republican Party pledged to be fiscally responsible and to close the will of the American people. On page 6 of the Republicans’ Pledge to America, the party states: “With commonsense exceptions for seniors, veterans, and our troops, we will roll back government spending to pre-stimulus, pre-bailout levels, saving us at least $100 billion in the first year alone and putting us on a path to balance the budget and pay down the debt.”

The pledge was solemnly made by the Republican leadership despite being largely panned as a political stunt. Despite their promise to follow through on their pledge, on Tuesday, aides to the Republican majority said that the pledge to cut $100 billion was “hypothetical.”

Now today they are moving forward to do the exact opposite of the actions they pledged, as they introduce legislation to repeal the Affordable Care Act. If successful, the Republican legislation will add $230 billion to the deficit by 2021. This extra $230 billion won’t be spent rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure, teaching our children, or providing for the millions without jobs. Instead, the $230 billion will be added to our deficit in order to take health care benefits and protections from those who need them the most.

For example, starting this year, the Affordable Health Care Act will begin to close the doughnut hole for seniors. Under the law, Medicare beneficiaries who fall in the doughnut hole will be eligible for 50 percent discounts on covered brand-name prescription drugs. Repeal this law, and seniors receive no help and will be forced to pay their rising drug costs alone. Those are the types of protections that I fight for today.

Fiscally, Members of Congress face a $300 billion choice. According to the Congressional Budget Office, we have two options: one, do we keep the Affordable Care Act and close the doughnut hole by 2021? Or, two, do we repeal the Affordable Health Care Act and add $230 billion to our deficit by 2021? That may be trouble for some; but for most of us, it is easy. For me, the answer is clear; and I assume to most Americans, it’s clear as well.

Because they can’t win by simply judging apples to apples, the Republican leadership has taken to discounting the Congressional Budget Office. Yet a quick bit of research will reveal that Republicans have long valued the nonpartisan and reliable work of the Congressional Budget Office and have publicly supported the agency before.

In fact, in 2009 Speaker BOEHNER repeatedly referred to the CBO as a nonpartisan institution and relied on their estimates to argue against the Affordable Care Act at the time. But now that the CBO’s estimates are detrimental to their political goals, they have taken the wrecking ball out of the Congressional Budget Office to perform a difficult but unpopular work. They are speaking the truth to power here in Washington and making the folks who would pass these enormous unfunded bills that impose this huge debt on generations hereafter somewhat unhappy.

“But I think they are doing an important service by telling us the facts. Last week, I commended the director of the CBO, Dr. Doug Elmendorf, for saying that the CBO will ‘never adjust its work for political expediency.’ God bless Dr. Elmendorf for his integrity and commitment to telling the truth. We need to learn how to deal with the truth, not try to remake it or cover it up.”

Now, I couldn’t agree more with that. The deficit estimates provided by the CBO are the singular authoritative figures upon which we make all of our decisions and have for decades. Even if some don’t like what the numbers tell us, we know that numbers don’t lie. I will remind my colleagues that today’s actions are not “hypothetical.” We truly face a $300 billion choice. We can choose to provide invaluable benefits to millions of Americans while paying down our national deficit—remember that it will save $143 billion over 10 years—or we can choose to end valuable health care protections for millions of Americans and add $230 billion to the Nation’s deficit.

In Madam Speaker, we are considering the first measure from the Rules Committee of this new Congress, and my Republican friends have already produced one for the record books. Let me give you some of the highlights. First of all, the resolution includes a completely closed process for two separate pieces of legislation. That means we get two closed rules in one. Maybe my Republican friends think they can save taxpayers money by rolling all the changes into one legislation. I think that’s what they meant by bringing efficiency to government.

The first closed rule on the health care repeal bill does most of the heavy lifting. It blocks every single germane amendment submitted to the Rules Committee. Well, that’s not exactly right, though. It actually slips in one change without allowing the House to vote on it. This special amendment, slipped in with the famous deem-and-pass maneuver, is very interesting. It allows the House to vote that the repeal bill is free, even though the Budget Office says it will raise the deficit by over $1 trillion. That’s a neat trick; and now we know the secret weapon for reducing the deficit: a blindfold.

This closed process is especially troubling on the health care repeal because this Republican bill has had no public hearings, no committee consideration, and a closed legislative business day that made it impossible for amendments to be considered. The new rule in this two-for-one package blocks all amendments to another resolution to correct a flaw in the swearing-in process. Apparently the vice chairman of the Rules Committee was concerned that if he was actually a Member of Congress. Maybe amendments are not important here because no Member in the House has seen this resolution, since the rule allows the majority leader to make changes until the moment it is introduced.

But if any of my colleagues are concerned about not having enough time to read this surprise resolution, don’t worry; the rule allows the House to debate it for 4 full minutes. 4 minutes. Have you ever heard of a bill debated for 4 minutes? Fortunately, the rule generously gives the minority 2 of those 4 minutes, and I guess that qualifies as both efficiency and bipartisan.

Finally, the rule allows the House to consider a sweeping press release from the Republican leadership, a resolution to replace real patient protections with vague rhetoric.

Madam Speaker, this is a very disappointing day for the House Rules Committee. Our first action of the new Congress violates the promises that we heard from our Republican friends: no public hearings, no committee consideration, a completely closed process, legislative text no Member has read, 4 minutes of debate on an important constitutional issue, and so on.

For all those Members who were sent to Washington, like I was, to repair our Nation’s finances, create jobs for millions of the unemployed, help the millions of Americans in need, the decision should be simple. I encourage my colleagues to reject the efforts of Republican leadership, keep our promises to our constituents, and vote to keep the affordable health care law.

I reserve the balance of my time.
Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Mr. Chairman, I will say that it’s truly an honor to serve on the Rules Committee. My first experience was a 12-hour experience last night and all day yesterday. What a wonderful opportunity to serve the American people.

This is a great opportunity for all of us in America to kill the jobs-killing health care bill that is taking jobs away from the private sector. I simply want to make six quick points.

The first point is that we all recognize that the cost of insurance is only going up, up and up. There is a misnomer that this bill somehow reduces the cost of insurance. It is simply categorically not true. Shifting who pays for the insurance, the health care cost, does not make the health care cost go down; it is simply going to continue to rise.

Second point, when you design a bill that has tax increase after tax increase after tax increase and say that you are reducing the deficit by increasing taxes, it is inconsistent with the reality that the American people want from the Congress.

Third, the individual mandate is simply unconstitutional. And if the individual mandate is not a part of the bill, if we don’t force every single American to buy insurance, this Ponzi scheme simply doesn’t work.

Number four, bringing 10 years of revenue in and paying out 6 years of benefit and calling that equal, that’s a farce.

Number five, the lifetime benefits, challenging the lifetime benefits. We want everyone in America to have the access to health care without any question. The question we ask ourselves is, from an actuarial perspective, can we pay for it, a $2.7 trillion expansion, a $2.7 trillion unfunded liability on the current entitlement?

We simply cannot continue to dig a hole and call ourselves compassionate. There is nothing compassionate about increasing our entitlements by jeopardizing the future entitlements of all Americans.

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We simply cannot continue to dig a hole and call ourselves compassionate. There is nothing compassionate about increasing our entitlements by jeopardizing the future entitlements of all Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield my friend an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Finally, the seventh point, we’ve heard lots of rhetoric about what we’re doing to send checks and women. We are facing is an opportunity to stop robbing future generations, to stop the unnecessary impact, the intergenerational cost. Without even taking into consideration the intergenerational costs, we are robbing future generations.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, the American people made it very clear in the last election that they want us to focus on one thing, jobs. But the new Republican majority has instead chosen to reopen an old ideological battle. I think that’s a mistake, but there is also an opportunity that the American people will have the opportunity, right at the outset of this new Congress, to see the clear differences between Democrats and Republicans.

Democrats believe that insurance companies should be prohibited from discriminating on the basis of pre-existing conditions. Republicans do not.

Democrats believe that we should close the doughnut hole and reduce prescription drug prices for our seniors. Republicans do not.

Democrats believe that young people should be allowed to remain on their parents’ health insurance plan until the age of 26. Republicans do not.

Democrats believe that the Affordable Care Act should provide tax breaks to small businesses and subsidies to low-income Americans to help them pay for health insurance for their workers and their families. Republicans do not.

And Democrats believe that we need to seriously address the budget deficit. Republicans do not, as the Congressional Budget Office made abundantly clear. The CBO told us yesterday that the bill to repeal health insurance reform would add $230 billion to the deficit over 10 years and another $1.2 trillion in the following 10 years.

As far as I can tell, this is the most expensive one-page bill in American history: 114 words, that’s $2 billion per word.

And rather than address those budgetary facts, the new Republican majority has simply decided to ignore them, to cover their ears and pretend that the laws of arithmetic do not apply to them.

In their first order of legislative business, the Republicans want to take health insurance reform and toss it in the trash. And how many hearings have they held on the impact of this repeal?

Zero. How many mark-ups did they have? Zero. And, most shockingly, how many amendments will they consider in this bill?

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), a member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill, the most expensive one-page bill in the history of Congress, and it costs the taxpayers a little over $200 billion the first 10 years alone, and over $1 trillion overall.

Not only have the Republicans, as the first bill that we are doing a rule on and facing here on the floor, put forward the most expensive one-page bill in the history of Congress, and it is not paid for, Madam Speaker.

In addition to not being paid for, they have waived many of the notice-for-transparency requirements, the
regular order that they sought to establish with regard to the way that this Congress is run.

Madam Speaker, there were many good ideas and good amendments that were brought forward by Members of both parties yesterday during our session on the Rules Committee. I want to talk about a few in particular.

One, my colleague from Michigan, GARY PETERS, brought a proposal that would have made sure that this biggest one-page expenditure in the history of Congress is taken on small businesses. Unfortunately, that amendment is not made in order under this rule, and therefore H. R. 2 will be raising taxes on small businesses across the country that are now receiving tax credits for providing health care for their employees.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time I am very privileged to yield to the gentleman from Columbus, Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

Mr. PENCE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. PENCE. I thank the gentleman. Reclaiming my time, yes. It must be mystifying for people looking in this morning to hear about the most expensive one-page bill in American history.

I say again. Only in Washington, D.C., could a Congress vote to repeal a $2.7 trillion government takeover of health care and the minority says it costs the American people money.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this rule and against this bill is a vote to protect the American public from unfair insurance company practices, to provide relief to young and old alike, to stay on the path to a fiscally responsible future. I urge my colleagues to vote down this rule and vote against the underlying legislation.

Madam Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 1 minute to a hard-working member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, which will be one of those committees, when we pass H. Res. 9, that will be dealing with ensuring that every single American has access to quality health insurance, our friend from Brentwood, Tennessee (Ms. BLACKBURN).

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, today we do begin a very important process, and it is a solid first step. And I stand to support this rule and to support repeal of this law, because we have on the books a law that doesn’t improve the quality of healthcare. It will not reduce the cost of health care, and it is going to add billions to the exploding national debt.

We have listened to the American people. They are smart, and they know that this law is all about delivering on the promises that they made, and the American people voted in overwhelming numbers to repeal it.
and replace it. That is the action that we are going to take.

Congress cannot wait any longer to get this irresponsible law out of our doctors’ offices, out of our lives, and off the books.

We in Tennessee have lived through the experiment of government-run health care called TennCare. Tennessee could not afford it, and the American people know that this Nation cannot afford a TennCare-type program on a national level.

I support the rule.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan, our ranking member of Ways and Means, Mr. LEVIN.

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. This is what the Republicans are after, what their repeal would mean: It would take away from millions of Americans coverage for kids with preexisting conditions, coverage for young adults under 26. Recommended preventive care would be taken away. It would take away lower drug costs for seniors. And this is what the Republican repeal would do. It would give back to insurance companies unreasonable premium increases, unjust policy terminations, rescissions. It would take away this. It would give back profits and CEO salaries to insurance companies, not health care benefits.

It would give back annual and lifetime limits on benefits. It gives back to insurance companies discrimination ability against women.

These are concrete reasons to vote “no” on this repeal, a misfortune for the United States of America.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time I yield 2 minutes to another hardworking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, our friend from Marietta, Georgia, Dr. GINGREY.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, we have heard a lot of arguments on the other side of the aisle in regard to the $230 billion cost, and on our side of the aisle, of course, only in America can something actually cost $1.15 trillion and eliminating it then all of a sudden costs $230 billion. But, yes, Ms. SLAUGHTER, only in America, only in this Congress, numbers do lie.

Let me just say that what we have been talking about on this side of the aisle, of course, is the voice of the American people.

You know, it was about 3,000 years ago that a little shepherd boy walked into that valley of death looking up at all of those Philistines and that 9-foot giant Goliath from Gath. He had that coat of mail, he had the sword, he had the shield, he had the javelin. And what did little David have? He had a little pouch and a handful of stones. But he hit that giant right between the eyes, brought him to his knees, and then cut off the head of the snake.

That pouch and those little pebbles represent the voice of the American people. That is what we have on this side of the aisle. That is why we are going to pass H. Res. 9 and we are going to repeal H.R. 2 next week, and we are going to deliver our promise to the American people to eliminate, to repeal ObamaCare.

The American people spoke loudly. They don’t like this bill. The Democratic majority in the Senate and the President have one last chance to make amends. I think they will do it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY).

Mr. MARKEY. This debate is about health care versus don’t care.

The Democrats’ health care law lowers prescription drug costs, helps middle class families pay for health coverage for their sick children, and expands health care for 32 million more Americans, reducing the deficit by $133 billion. The Democrats’ health care law helps grandma afford her prescription drugs.

The Republicans don’t care about grandma. They want to take back the drug benefits in the new law. GOP used to stand for Grand Old Party; now it stands for “grandma’s out of prescriptions.” The Republicans “don’t care” repeal shows they don’t care about sick children with medical bills pushing families into bankruptcy, that they don’t care about grandma and grandpa who need help paying for prescription drugs.

Vote down this rule so that we can help grandma, sick children, and middle class families struggling to pay for health care.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this point I am happy to yield 1 minute to another hardworking member of this freshman class, my new friend from San Antonio, Texas (Mr. CANSECO).

Mr. CANSECO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule and in support of the underlying legislation, the repeal of the job-killer health care act.

Ten months ago, President Obama and his allies in the Democrat-controlled House and Senate committed legislative malpractice when they jammed through the Congress and into law a Washington takeover of health care. They did so despite the overwhelming opposition of the American people. Since its enactment into law, what was already an unpopular law has only continued to become more unpopular.

There is no doubt that we need to reform health care in America. However, it is not done by assaulting individual liberties guaranteed in our Constitution, bankrupting our children and grandchildren, and putting Washington bureaucrats in the personal relationships between our doctors and our patients.

Repealing the health care bill will also help encourage job growth to get our economy back on track. Our economy is not suffering from a capital crisis; it is suffering from a confidence crisis.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I am happy to yield my friend an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. CANSECO. Policies enacted in Washington, like the health care bill, have injected uncertainty into our economy that has eroded the confidence of Americans to start new businesses or expand current ones to create jobs.

The American people have made it clear they want the health care law repealed and replaced with commonsense alternatives that will lower the cost of health care while also increasing quality and access. After meeting and speaking with thousands of Texans in the 23rd District over the past year, this is my message: repealing and replacing the health care bill is one of the promises made to the American people in the Pledge to America. Today, we are making good on that promise as we begin the work of repealing the health care law and replacing it to ensure every American can get the health care that they need, when they need it, and at a price they can afford—without the Federal Government coming between them and their doctor.

I support the rule.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, this is nothing but a gag rule. I and so many of my colleagues on the Democratic side went up to the Rules Committee yesterday and asked for amendments, and they were almost all excluded from this rule.

The Republican chairman of the committee says there is transparency. He says that there is an opportunity for participation. He can say it as many times as he wants, but it is simply not true.

He also said that this was a commitment to the American people. There is no commitment to the American people here. The only commitment is to the insurance companies. They are the only ones that are going to gain from repeal of this very important legislation because they increase premiums, and they want to institute discriminatory practices again against women, a woman perhaps who has breast cancer and a preexisting condition and can’t get insurance, or bring back those lifetime caps, or bring back those annual caps where people lose their insurance if they have had a serious operation and they try to go back again and they don’t have insurance, or perhaps the child who is up to 26 and who also will not be able to get on their parents’ insurance policy again.

Let me tell you here, the only one who benefits is the insurance company, not the American people.
Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, may I inquire of my friend on the other side of the aisle how many speakers she has remaining?

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, we have got every minute taken. I am not sure everybody is going to show up.

Mr. DREIER. I am told there are 11 minutes remaining on your side. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the dean of the House and our leader on health care.

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, if you listen to the Republicans today, they are telling us don't bother them with the facts. Their minds are made up.

They are unaware of the fact that the Congressional Budget Office says that this will go to create 4 million jobs in the health care legislation. They don't tell us that the same Congressional Budget Office says that passage of H.R. 2 is going to increase the deficit by $140 billion. And they also are telling us the American people want this repeal. They don't.

They understand what this means. It means that no longer are people going to get the protections that the health insurance bill gives. No more protection, if the Republicans get their way, against preexisting conditions and rescissions denying people health care because of something that happened to them down the road before. No longer will Americans be protected against frivolous and improper behavior by the insurance companies.

This is a bad rule. It is bottomed not on facts, but on fiction. And if this body is to legislate and legislate well, we have to have the facts, not fiction, not deceit, not misleading statements by our Republican colleagues.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Vermont, former member of the Rules Committee, Mr. WELCH.

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentlelady from New York.

I say, Madam Speaker, to my Republican colleagues, you campaigned effectively, you beat us good, you ran on the agenda of defeating health care and repealing it. Now you're doing it. Own it. Admit what it is you are doing. This is not a campaign. We're playing with fire. We're taking away health care benefits that make a real difference to our families. Number one, it will increase the deficit by $230 billion. Fiscal responsibility, out the window.

Second, things that matter to families; their kids, starting out getting a $10 an hour job without health care. They will have to pay more, more for prescription drugs, and more for diabetes and cancer screenings.

We can stand with American families today or we can kneel to the insurance monopolies. The choice is clear—let's vote for American families.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you.

There is a lot of talk here on the floor about job killers. Actually this bill, the affordable health care bill, creates some 400,000 jobs. The repeal of it is actually a killer of human beings. Some 40,000 Americans die every year for lack of health insurance. That's the reality. Repeal this bill and you're going to find more Americans dying.

Also, you're doing away, with this repeal of the Affordable Health Care Act, of the patients' bill of rights. I was the insurance commissioner in California. I know exactly what the insurance companies will do if this repeal goes forward. They will continue to rescind policies. They will continue to deny coverage. They will continue to make sure that those 23-year-old children that have graduated from college will not be able to be on their parents' policies.

This repeal is perhaps the worst thing you can do to Americans in their health care. Besides that, you will significantly increase the deficit, by $230 billion.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to insert into the Record the figures from today's jobs report showing that since the enactment of health reform in March 2010, the economy has created 1.1 million private-sector jobs.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WELCH).

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentlelady from New York.

I say, Madam Speaker, to my Republican colleagues, you campaigned effectively, you beat us good, you ran on the agenda of defeating health care and repealing it. Now you're doing it. Own it. Admit what it is you are doing.

Preexisting conditions. You have cancer and you want to buy insurance, you can. Repeal, you can't. You lose it. Lifetime caps. If you are with cancer or diabetes and you need that insurance, you lose it before you can go without it.

And preventive care we're taking it away from seniors who are trying to take care of themselves, get those free mammograms, keep the cost of health care down. You are taking it away.

Admit it. Own it. State it proudly. It's what you campaigned on. It's what you're doing. But don't try to sugarcoat what this bill will do.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. CAPPS).

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, the issue facing the country is jobs. Instead of repealing health care, we should bring up a jobs bill like the China currency reform. And so I rise in strong opposition to the rule and the underlying bill.

Today I speak on behalf of the millions of Americans who are currently benefiting from the law and yet have been shut out of the legislative process. The way in which this legislation has been brought to this floor is a travesty. Before the Affordable Care Act became law, in the House alone we held nearly 80 hearings on the merits of reform.

But this bill to repeal this lifesaving law has not had a single hearing. Not one amendment has been allowed for an up or down vote here today. That's probably because the majority knows hearings would show that the law is already a ready success.

While we may disagree on the policy, we should be able to agree on the process. And this, my friends, is not the way to move legislation in the House of Representatives. We've all agreed upon that. That is why I urge my colleagues—especially the new Members who have taken an oath on the podium of an open Congress—to vote against this rule.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you.

Today's jobs report exposes the fatal flaw in the Republicans' argument that health reform is "job killing."

Since the enactment of health reform in March 2010, the economy has created more than 1.1 million private-sector jobs.

That's an average of 125,000 jobs created per month in the private sector since the enactment of health reform, compared to an average of 7,000 jobs lost per month in the private sector during the Bush Administration when our health care system was in a downward spiral and insurers had free rein to raise premiums on families and small businesses by double digits and deny or limit coverage with no accountability or recourse.

12 Straight Months of Job Growth in the Private Sector

More than 1.3 Million Private-Sector Jobs Created in 2010

In 2010 a record 1.3 million private-sector jobs were created in the private sector. The unemployment rate dropped from 9.8% to 4.9%.

In December, the 12th straight month of private-sector job growth in 2010, 113,000 private-sector jobs were created. That's a dramatic

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tumour from the situation President Obama inherited in early 2009, when we were losing 750,000 jobs a month. The November private-sector jobs number was revised up 79,000 to 193,000 private-sector jobs created.

Government employment declined slightly in November; as a result, net payroll growth for the public and private sector combined was 193,000 in December. The unemployment rate fell to 9.4% in December.

I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this rule that we're taking up today instead of focusing on jobs.

The new majority in the House ran on the platform of fiscal responsibility. This bill flies in the face of that promise by adding $230 billion in the short run and over $1 trillion in the long run to our deficit.

As important, under repeal, the Medicare trust fund will become insolvent in 2017. That's just 6 years away. Pushing Medicare over the cliff by passing this repeal takes a trust fund that serves our Nation's seniors to help provide health care coverage in retirement after a lifetime of working and paying taxes.

That is why I went to Rules Committee last night with two colleagues and offered an amendment to guarantee that repeal will not go forward unless it is certified that that repeal will not shorten the life of the Medicare trust fund. Sadly, the Rules Committee didn't allow us to help protect America's seniors. They didn't allow that amendment, we will not be able to vote for that amendment on the floor, and I urge a "no" vote on this rule.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 10 minutes remaining.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, then, in light of that, I am very happy to yield 1 minute to a physician, another hardworking member of this freshman class, the gentleman from Mount Kisco, New York (Ms. HAYWORTH).

Ms. HAYWORTH. Madam Speaker, as a physician, I understand the profound importance of the goals of the health care bill passed last year—assure that all Americans have affordable, portable health insurance, providing access to good medical care.

I also understand the disruptions that this law is already causing to our economy—the predictable side effects of legislative bad medicine, and the reason we must repeal and replace it. The bill we will be considering is in no way merely symbolic. It represents the true will of the American people, the majority have stated time after time to this day that they reject this law. The House's vote to repeal is the first step towards assuring that all Americans will have the quality, choice, and innovation in health care that they expect and deserve. We need to proceed expeditiously, according to the rule on which we vote today, with the understanding that we are taking meaningful and crucial action.

Mr. Slaughter. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFazio).

Mr. DeFazio. I thank the gentlelady.

The previous speaker is right. This is not symbolic. It's real. In fact, the Republicans are going to allow the return of the worst abuses of the health insurance industry. Preexisting condition exclusions. Taking away your policy when you get sick. Lifetime and annual caps. Throwing your kids off your policy.

The Republican repeal of this bill would enable all those things for their very, very generous benefactors in the insurance industry.

I haven't had a single constituent and I know I haven't—beg you to bring back those abuses. Is that what you're doing? Is that what they want? You could take steps right now in fact to rein in this industry, and 400 people in this House voted for it last year. Let's take away their unfair exemption from antitrust laws so they can't collude to drive up prices, they can't collude to take away your insurance, they can't collude to throw your kids off; and all the other anticompetitive things that industry does. I offered the amendment to Rules last night. The Republicans, despite the chairman of the committee and other having voted for it last year, would not allow it. This is an insurance industry bill plain and simple.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 1 minute to another hardworking physician, a member of this freshman class, the gentleman from south Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Dr. DESJARLAIS.

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to support the rule and to support the repeal of the Obama health care law. As a physician who has practiced medicine in rural Tennessee under the onerous TennCare law, I know firsthand that this law does not work. It restricts access to health care, it increases the cost, and it does not deliver on the promises the minority made when they passed the law.

The American people have had their say. They do not want this bill. They want it repealed, and they want to see meaningful and crucial action.

Ms. Slaughter. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I thank my colleague from the Rules Committee for allowing me to speak.

If I rise in opposition to this rule on H.R. 2, the Patients' Rights Repeal Act. Just yesterday, the Congressional Budget Office said that this repeal would cost $230 billion in additional Federal debt. It's amazing, this is our first major piece of legislation and the Republicans are already adding to the national debt.

The issue facing our country is jobs. Instead of repealing health care, we should be bringing up a jobs bill like the China currency reform. Where is that bill on the floor with the new majority?

Let me tell you what this bill will do. At least in Texas, we will see tragedy happen. 161,000 young adults will lose their insurance coverage through their parents' health care plan—that's only in Texas—and 2.8 million Texans who have Medicare coverage will be forced to pay copays now for preventative services like mammograms and colonoscopies. Medicare will no longer pay for the annual visit of nearly 2.8 million Texans—and many more Americans for Medicare—and 128,662 Texans will lose Medicare without pre-prescription costs if this law is repealed.

Madam Speaker, yesterday Congressional Budget Office said "over the 2012–2021 period, the repeal of health care reform on federal activities, will cost $230 billion in deficit spending.

The issue facing the country is jobs. Instead of repealing health care, we should bring up a jobs bill like China currency reform.

The Republicans came into office promising to reduce federal spending and reduce the deficit, but their first act in the Majority is to try to pass a Rule that would exempt H.R. 2 for story PAGYO.

In addition to adding billions in dollars to the deficit, consideration of H.R. 2 would jeopardize the current and future health care benefits of my constituents. The negative effects repealing the Affordable Care Act will have on Texas and all Americans.

Up to 161,000 young adults would lose their insurance coverage through their parents' health plans. Nearly 11.8 million residents of Texas with private insurance coverage would suffer and themselves and their families would no longer have lifetime limits placed on how much insurance companies will spend on their health care.

Insurance companies would once again be allowed to cut off someone's coverage unexpectedly when they are in an accident or become sick because of a simple mistake on an application. This would leave more than 1.1 million people in Texas at risk of losing their insurance.

More than 1.1 million residents of Texas would not know if they are receiving value unexpectedly when they are in an accident or become sick because of a simple mistake on an application. This would leave more than 1.1 million people in Texas at risk of losing their insurance.
A total of 128,682 Texans on Medicare would see significantly higher prescription drug costs. In Texas, Medicare beneficiaries received a one-time, tax-free $250 rebate to help pay for prescription drugs in the “donut hole” coverage gap in 2010. Medicare beneficiaries without “donut hole” coverage in 2011 will be eligible for 50 percent discounts on covered brand name prescription drugs.

Madam Speaker, when Texans and all Americans will soon be finally free from worrying that affordable coverage will not be available to them and their families when they need it most, repealing the Affordable Care Act would be devastating.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote no on the rule to consider H.R. 2.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS), the ranking member of Government Oversight and Reform.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I rise in fervent opposition to this rule. Despite ardent promises from Republicans that all bills would be considered under regular order, this resolution has neither been debated nor voted on by a single committee or plenum.

Additionally, the recently passed Republican rules package requires that all legislation be fully paid for—and yet the Republican leadership has already publicly declared that they have no intention of paying for what is estimated to be a $1 trillion increase in the deficit that the repeal of health reform would create by 2021, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Worse than the Republicans’ already broken promises are what this rule and the underlying resolution would do to children, to seniors, and to all Americans who are suffering from illnesses.

I strongly oppose this rule.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, at this time I am happy to yield 1 minute to another great new Member, the gentlewoman from Archie, Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER), my home State.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Members on the opposite side of the aisle said we need to be passing a jobs bill. Well, this is a jobs bill, because I can testify, as a person who’s newly elected and been on the campaign trail for a while, that in the Fourth District we had small businesses that are not hiring and not expanding because of the health care bill. We have to change this so that we can create more jobs.

I am a small business owner myself, and I can tell you, since this has passed, that health insurance premiums have skyrocketed in anticipation of the mandate that is going to be forced on the $230 billion. If we want to get serious about creating jobs, we need to start by repealing this.

This is also a bill to rein in the runaway spending that is devastating our country, and it’s mortgaging our children’s future. As a mother, that’s important to me. This bill put another $1.2 trillion of debt on our country. We cannot afford that.

Lastly, this is a freedom bill. The people in my district do not want the government telling them they have to buy a private product and then mandating what is in that product. That is unconstitutional. By passing this last year, they took away my freedom, the freedom of the people of the Fourth District, and the freedom of this country. We deserve better.

Ms. SUTTEN. The issue facing this country is jobs. Instead of rushing to the aid of the insurance industry to re-instate their right to engage in egregious discriminatory practices of discriminating against adults and children alike based on pre-existing conditions, instead of allowing the doughnut hole to continue to bear down on our seniors, we should be passing real jobs legislation.

Urgently, we should be bringing up jobs bills that will make a real difference, like putting an end to China’s currency manipulation. We’ve heard the numbers: 2.4 million jobs lost across the country, 90,000 jobs lost in Ohio, and 5,700 jobs have been lost in my congressional district due to China’s deliberate and abusive trade policies. We can do something about this issue today, and we should. It makes a real difference.

I hope that our friends across the aisle will stand with American businesses and American workers and put an end to the abusive practice of China’s currency manipulation.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield for the purpose of making a unanimous consent request to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule.

Madam Speaker, after Democrats took a shellacking on November 2, I concluded then and now that it was because of the fragile economy and because they thought just perhaps Republicans would have some new ideas about fiscal discipline.

Well here’s what we get. We get a Republican majority that is more concerned about political theatre and messaging to the Tea Party than they are in creating jobs and reducing the deficit. We need a Jobs bill. Now.

The CBO on yesterday told us what we already suspected. Repeal will increase, yes increase, the deficit by $230 billion. It will result in 32 million Americans losing their health insurance. And what eclipsed this whole episode was a Republican Rule that exempts Repeal from Pay-as-you-Go rules.

Shame on the Republican majority. Shame on you.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

Mr. ANDREWS. There are 15 million Americans unemployed as we meet this morning. They do not want us to play politics with health care; they want us to work together to create jobs.

There is a job killer loose in America. The job killer is unfair trade practices that force the outsourcing of our jobs.

There is a proposal that has broad agreement between Republicans and Democrats to bring fair trade back to America. If we defeat the previous question, we will move to amend the rule to make in order the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, which simply says this: As the Chinese have been slamming the door shut on our workers and products, we’ve been opening our shelves in American department stores. No more of that. No more outsourcing of jobs. No more unfair trade practices. A fair and level playing field for American workers.

Let’s work together to create jobs and stop the politics and the waste of time of health care. Vote “no” on the previous question.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield for the purpose of making a unanimous consent request to the gentleman from New York, Mr. Eliot Engel.

Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. ENGEL. I rise in opposition to this amendment. It seems that the openness the new majority promised us lasted half a day. And the more things change, the more they remain the same. I urge my colleagues to vote “no.”

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, if we are able to defeat the previous question, I will move to amend the rule to make in order a bill (H.R. 2378) from the last Congress, the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, which invokes our anti-dumping laws and provides relief for American workers and companies injured by unfair exchange rate policies.

I yield to the gentleman from New York for a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, what is the current whole number of Members of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The whole number of the House is 435.

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. WEINER. Can the Speaker certify that all 435 Members have been correctly and duly sworn and have taken the oath of office as required under the Constitution?
I believe that it is very important for us to have associated health plans so that small businesses can come together and get lower rates. We need to have pooling to deal with preexisting conditions. We need to expand medical savings accounts. And yes, Madam Speaker, the fifth thing we need to do is we need to have meaningful lawsuit abuse reform so that resources can go towards doctors and not trial lawyers.

These are the kinds of things that these new Members are telling us need to be done, and that is exactly what passage of this rule will make happen.

Now, Madam Speaker, let me say I urge support of this rule, and I urge support of the underlying legislation.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express opposition to the rule and the irresponsible move by the Republicans to dismantle health care reform for millions of Americans. There are a multitude of reasons why I am opposing this rule and why it is an affront to the democratic process, but I will focus on three today.

First, this rule shuts out any attempt to change the Republican proposal. After promising an honest attempt to engage Members across the aisle, Republicans went back on their word and closed the door to any meaningful conversation.

Yesterday’s Rules Committee meeting serves as an example of the extreme tactics of an Administration that is out of touch and out of opposition. Thirty Democratic amendments were submitted for consideration, including several that I co-sponsored, aimed at preserving key consumer protections in the health care reform law. One of the most notable provisions includes prohibiting insurance companies from canceling coverage due to illness or imposing annual or lifetime limits. The Democratic amendments would also preserve access to primary care and the medical loss ratio (MLR) provision. This provision requires insurance companies in the individual and small group markets to spend at least 80 percent of the premiums on medical care and quality improvement activities. Finally, the amendments would prohibit repeal if it increases cost sharing or otherwise reduces access to preventive health benefits such as mammograms, colonoscopies, and diabetes screenings.

All 30 Democratic amendments were rejected by the Republicans, leaving no room for dialogue or reform.

My second concern is that Republicans are trying to turn back the clock on the Democratic reforms that have allowed millions of Americans to access affordable quality health care across the country. In my state alone, preliminary estimates suggest that 161,000 young people under the age of 26 will become ineligible to remain on their parents’ health insurance. Some patients will pay more for preventative services, and 128,682 Medicare recipients will pay higher prescription costs.

Moreover, Republicans are ignoring warnings from the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) that repealing the Affordable Care Act will add $230 billion over the next 10 years to the already massive budget deficit. Instead of focusing on job creation and other efforts to grow our economy again, House Republicans have set the tone for the beginning of the 112th Congress by attempting to ram through a repeal of the most comprehensive health care reform legislation in our history.

They want to “repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act, but we have yet to share with the American people exactly what they want to replace it with.

“Just trust us,” they say. Well, their idea of trust is voting to strip middle class, working poor, and other vulnerable Americans of their access to affordable, quality health care now, and worrying about the costs later.

What they call a “job-killing health care law” actually creates much-needed jobs and cuts the deficit.

In fact, according to a preliminary estimate from Director Elmendorf of the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), repeal of the Affordable Care Act will explode federal budget deficits by $230 billion through 2021 and by billions more in the following decade.

The bottom line is that Republicans would rather help themselves by taking away over 32 million Americans’ health care than help put our nation back to work.

Simply put, a vote in favor of “repeal and replace” is a vote to:

Take coverage away from young adults looking for jobs, children with pre-existing conditions, and low-income families;

Impose lifetime limits on coverage;

Allow insurance companies to spend more on CEO salaries, bonuses, and corporate profits than health care;

Increase preventive care and prescription drug costs for seniors under Medicare.

Madam Speaker, yesterday in the Rules Committee, I asked all those in attendance whether their health insurance premiums over the past 20 years had gone down. Not one single person, and that would include my Republican colleagues, raised their hands. Need I say more?

I urge a “no” vote on the rule and underlying bill.

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H. Res. 26, a rule to provide for debate on H.R. 2, the Republican attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

In September 2010, the Republican Party offered a “Pledge to America.” They outlined their promises to create a more transparent and open Congress; to bring bills to the floor under regular order, following consideration by committee; to allow a bipartisan debate under
open rules allowing any member to come forward and have an up or down vote on amendments to major pieces of legislation; and to reject bills that increase the deficit. Most importantly, Republicans promised to work in the best interest of American families.

Just two days after Republicans have taken over the majority in the House, we are back to business as usual under Republican control. This hypocrisy rules reveal each promise made by Republicans during their campaign and in the rules they adopted for the 112th Congress.

The rule brings to the floor a bill that has never been considered in committee but will receive a down vote that was discussed and debated for over a year in committees in both houses of Congress. That is not the regular order Republicans promised.

Democrats brought 30 amendments to the House Rules Committee, seeking an up or down vote to preserve provisions of the Affordable Care Act that prevent insurance companies from denying coverage for those with pre-existing conditions, from canceling insurance coverage for young adults up to age 26, from dropping individuals when they get sick, from maintaining the Medicare Part D Coverage gap. Not one amendment was made in order. The rule is the open and bipartisan debate Republicans promised.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates the bill this rule brings to the floor will increase the deficit by $230 billion over 10 years, a cost Republicans convened a special session of Congress. That is not the fiscal responsibility Republicans promised.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose this rule that violates the promises made by Republicans when they made each and every one of these promises represent the best interest of our constituents. I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. DREIER. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 236, nays 182, not voting 16, as follows: [Roll No. 9]

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The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 236, nays 181, answered "present" 2, not voting 15, as follows:

[Table of roll call votes]

Ms. MURKOWITZ of New York, Messrs. MCARDLE of Texas, CONYERS, and PASCRELL changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for: [Mrs. BLACK, Madam, Speaker, on rollcall No. 9 it was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTES

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The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 236, nays 181, answered "present" 2, not voting 15, as follows:

[Table of roll call votes]
the desk as the designee of the majority leader a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration. 

Mr. WEINER. I reserve a point of order, Madam Speaker. 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A point of order is reserved. 

The Clerk will report the resolution. The Clerk reads as follows: 

H. RES. 27

Whereas, Representative-elect Sessions and Representative-elect Fitzpatrick were not administered the oath of office pursuant to the third clause in article VI of the Constitution until after the completion of legislative business on January 6, 2011; and, 

Whereas, the votes cast by Representative-elect Sessions and Representative-elect Fitzpatrick on rollcalls 3 through 8 therefore were nullities: Now, therefore, be it 

Resolved, That—

(1) the votes recorded for Representative-elect Sessions and Representative-elect Fitzpatrick on rollcalls 3 through 8 be deleted and the vote-totals for each of those rollcalls be adjusted accordingly, both in the Journal and in the Congressional Record; 

(2) the election of Representative-elect Sessions to a standing committee and his participation in its proceedings be ratified; 

(3) the measures delivered to the Speaker for referral by Representative-elect Sessions be considered as introduced and retain the numbers assigned; 

(4) any submissions to the Congressional Record by Representative-elect Sessions or Representative-elect Fitzpatrick be considered as valid; 

(5) any cosponsor lists naming Representative-elect Sessions or Representative-elect Fitzpatrick be considered as valid; and 

(6) any non-voting participation by Representative-elect Sessions or Representative-elect Fitzpatrick on rollcalls in proceedings on the floor be ratified. 

POINT OF ORDER 

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to a point of order. 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his point of order. 

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I make a point of order that the consideration of this resolution is in violation of the House rules that we just passed in which new section 2 was created to rule XXI that required at least 3 days’ notice to consider legislation, that it be posted on the Internet and we have a chance to review it. It is particularly important in this case since we’re dealing with a constitutional issue, one that is without precedent, and I insist on the point of order. 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must observe that the rule cited applies to bills and joint resolutions; and pursuant to House Resolution 26, all points of order are waived. 

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY 

Mr. McCOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am standing on the floor of the House of Representatives where Members of Congress get sworn in, and I have a parliamentary inquiry. 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry. 

Mr. McCOVERN. Madam Speaker, under the rules of the House and the United States Constitution, can a committee of the House be presided over by someone who is not a Member of the House of Representatives and who is not a member of that committee? 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. No. Only sworn Members may serve on committees.

So the resolution was agreed to. 

The result of the vote was announced as below: 

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY 

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker. Pursuant to House Resolution 26, I send to

Mr. McCOVERN. Madam Speaker, under the rules of the House and the United States Constitution, can a committee of the House be presided over by someone who is not a Member of the House of Representatives and who is not a member of that committee? 

The SPEAKER pro tempore. No. Only sworn Members may serve on committees.

RELATING TO THE STATUS OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN BY MEMBERS-ELECT 

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 26, I send to
I ask the consent of the chairman for an additional 1 minute so we can have an understanding.

Mr. DREIER. I have no authority to do that. We are living under this rule that was passed by the House.

Mr. WEINER. The gentleman may yield to a unanimous consent request. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from New York has expired.

Mr. WEINER. Only does Mr. DREIER have the authority to accede to a unanimous consent request. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from California yield for such a request?

Mr. DREIER. I have my time, and I will be utilizing that, Madam Speaker. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from New York has expired.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the fact that my friend from New York has stated his respect for Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

These two individuals were in this Capitol. They were in this Capitol to take the oath of office. They didn’t happen to be in this exact room. Under the standard of collegiality in Jefferson’s Manual, it is indicated that they have to be within the proximity of the Speaker.

Madam Speaker, any Member who does not vote in favor of this resolution is allowing the problem to persist. This resolution rectifies the problem which we all realize has happened. I believe that we have a responsibility to this institution, we have a responsibility to the Constitution, we have a responsibility to the American people, and this resolution rectifies a problem that has existed.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. WEINER. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, under the rules of the House, are the Members of Congress who are not duly sworn entitled to be paid for the days of service in which they were here and were not counted in?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not stated a proper parliamentary inquiry.

Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 26, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

The question is on the resolution. The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 257, noes 159, answered “present” 3, not voting 15. As follows:

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I regret my absence in the House today as I was in my district attending to personal business. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall votes 9, 10, and 11.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC, JANUARY 7, 2011.

HON. JOHN BOSHER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under Clause 2(g) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I herewith designate Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or illness.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 112th Congress or until modified by me.

Sincerely,
KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the gentleman from Virginia on his election as majority leader of his party, and I have no doubt he will work hard to make the opportunity to work together over the recent years. It’s been a positive relationship, and I look forward to continuing that positive relationship, although I think you would have hoped and perhaps we would have hoped as well in his diminished status.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for those kind remarks. I want to also reiterate my pleasure of being able to develop a positive working relationship with him, understanding full well there will be disagreements, but there is probably a lot more that we can agree on, and I look forward to exploring those avenues. I want to congratulate him on his election to the position of Democratic whip, and I look forward to working in this relationship. I know that these roles have been reversed now in these colloquies, so I look forward to that as well.

Madam Speaker, on Monday, the House is not in session. On Tuesday, the House will meet at 12 p.m. for morning-hour debate and at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. On Thursday and Friday, the House will not be in session to accommodate the Republican retreat.

On Tuesday, we will consider at least one bill under suspension of the rules, which will be announced later today. We will also begin consideration of H.R. 2, the Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Act Law. I expect the House to complete debate on H.R. 2 Wednesday afternoon.

Also, on Wednesday, Madam Speaker, the House will consider H. Res. 9, instructing certain committees to report legislation replacing the job-killing health care law.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for outlining the schedule. There was an interesting article in The Washington Post today about your job-killing comments always being attached to the health care bill. There are obviously some of us who know full well that was not part of the title, as I’m sure the gentleman would admit, and that in fact it does not do that at all. In fact, we think it creates jobs. But, in any event, I thank the gentleman for announcing the schedule.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I was disappointed, however, as he was when he was in my position, that we don’t have a committee process for this very important piece of legislation. I think it’s important from your perspective and it’s important from our perspective, although we may have different perspectives on whether it should pass or fail. But it is an important piece of legislation.

There was no committee process and no hearings; no one appeared because the public was not interested in the bill; no opportunity for the Members to testify with respect to that bill; no witnesses were heard. Furthermore, under the rule, of course we have been given no opportunity to debate.

The gentleman, when he was in my position, repeatedly indicated how disappointed he was that there were no amendments allowed on certain bills. I want to reiterate that concern. And given the lack of opportunity, I want to clarify when he believes will be the finishing of votes on Wednesday, I understand debate will begin on Tuesday and it will conclude on Wednesday.

Mr. CANTOR. I would ask the gentleman to repeat the question.

Mr. HOYER. What time do you expect to conclude business on Wednesday?

Mr. CANTOR. I would say to the gentleman, Madam Speaker, that it is our intention to conclude by 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that response.

In light of the fact that your side has made a pledge to allow ample time for Members to read and consider it, and notwithstanding that they have already not pursued that as vigorously as I think you would have hoped and perhaps you would have hoped as well in the 112th Congress, I was wondering if the gentleman can enlighten us on what he expects to consider the rest of January, after next week, so that
Members might have opportunities to anticipate issues that you’re going to be bringing forward.

Mr. CANTOR. As to the inquiry about openness and the ability for Members to have time to read the bills as well as for the public to realize its right to know, we on our side believe in making sure there is that adequate time, and we posted on Monday legislation coming to the floor for this week and next. So I would say to the gentleman from Maryland, Madam Speaker, that our intention today and our commitment to the 3-day rule to allow for the public’s right to know, as well as Members themselves to understand, what it is we’re voting for.

As to the gentleman’s comments regarding the up-or-down vote on ObamaCare repeal, if the gentleman has looked at the postings online, he will know that the repeal resolution is a page and a half. This is a repeal of a bill that was the subject of significant legislation, and the other one’s the course of the last 2 years. It is clear that the public has litigated and, in essence, has decided its position on that bill, given the results of November’s election.

It comes down to whether you are for ObamaCare or you are against it. That is what the vote is.

As to the question, we actually have a permanent fix to the reimbursement of doctors who took Medicare patients. Unfortunately, the minority party has looked at the postings online, he has not decided its position on that bill, given the results of November’s election.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments. Obviously, the health care bill that he and his party seek to repeal had probably more consideration, more open debate, more transparency, more amendments, and more hearings than almost any bill that I have considered as a Member of this Congress over the last three decades. Amendments offered from both sides in committee on a very ample basis; but I am glad to hear that you agree that there has been ample debate time for that. There has not been any debate time in committees— or amendments—on the repeal of that law.

I am certainly hopeful that the gentleman does not mean to say that if the majority party concludes that the American people have already decided regarding the issue, that will be the exception to the rule that you have put forth in terms of full and open notice, debate, the amendment process, and transparency. I would certainly hope that that would not be the case. I don’t expect it will be the case, and I hope it won’t be.

Let me say in addition that I am very pleased that the majority party allowed in order the amendment by Mr. MATHESON. As you know, we tried to have a permanent fix to the reimbursement of doctors who took Medicare patients. Unfortunately, the minority party in the Senate, which had the opportunity to do that, precluded us from accomplishing that objective. So I am pleased. That needs to be done. We need to have a stable funding expectation by doctors when they provide services to Medicare patients.—as we want them to do and as we want them to continue to do. So I am absolutely in favor of that amendment, and I would hope Members on your side will be supporting that amendment as we will on this side.

Let me ask you now, Mr. Majority Leader, as I am very concerned, and I expressed this on the floor. Your rules, in my view, provide for some $5 trillion to be incurred in additional deficits. They allow that because you have exempted almost all of the possible reductions in revenues—tax cuts, reductions in revenues notwithstanding no reduction in spending. But, if you reduce revenues and you don’t reduce spending commensurately, inevitably, you will create large deficits, which inevitably will be paid by future generations.

That has been the experience that, again, I have had when we had significant tax cuts in the 1980s and in the last decade of 2000—2001 to 2003—when we created very large deficits. My presumption is that you will be finding commensurate reductions in spending to your tax cuts that you will want to continue. If you don’t do that, this will inevitably be the majority party has not done that in years past. Is it your expectation that that will occur in the future?

The question I want to ask you as well is that you have provided in your rules for essentially ignoring CBO scores—the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, which has issued a preliminary score for the Republican Patients’ Bill of Rights. They believe it will increase the deficit by $230 billion in the first 10 years by repeal and $1.2 trillion in the second 10 years.

My question is: Having deemed in the rule today a provision allowing the chair of the Budget Committee, Mr. Ryan, to ignore the CBO scores, will the majority continue to ignore CBO scores on legislation for the rest of Congress or will we be fiscally responsible, in my view, and adhere to the advice and counsel we receive from CBO?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the Democratic whip.

Madam Speaker, I respond to his first question by saying that Washington doesn’t have a revenue problem. It has a spending problem. We believe that it is better to allow folks to keep more of their hard-earned money so we can see a return to growth in our economy, and we are dedicated to making sure we deal with the spending problem here in Washington.

As I said before to the gentleman, we are intending and will bring to the floor each and every week a bill to cut spending. We are very focused, as you know, on bringing us back to 2008 levels to make sure that we are abiding by our commitment to live according to the same rules that everyone else does. While businesses and families are living within their means and tightening their belts, there is no reason in the world that Washington can’t as well. I am sure the gentleman agrees with me on that.

As for the issue surrounding the CBO, the fact that we had a previous dispute that we have is not with the Congressional Budget Office. The CBO score is what is put in front of them, and the reality is the ObamaCare bill, Madam Speaker, relied on smoke and mirrors and budgetary shell games in order to present the picture that it presents or alleges to represent.

Madam Speaker, there is nothing that has changed about the flawed assumptions underlying the old score of the ObamaCare bill. Only the dates have changed. These are the same gimmicks, producing more false deficit reduction and, in fact, real spending increases. In fact, as the gentleman
knows, Medicare’s chief actuary says that the ObamaCare bill represents a maze of mandates, tax hikes, and subsidies that will push costs up. The bottom line, Madam Speaker, is we need to stop arguing about ‘inside baseball’ budget gimmicks.

There’s no question that a new, openended entitlement program will grow unsustainably, will drive costs up, and could potentially bankrupt this Federal Government, as well as our States.

Mr. HOYER. I want to say to my friend, the continuing rhetoric is Washington doesn’t have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem. Americans in every family that I know understand that their revenues directly impact on their spending and vice versa, and if they don’t have enough revenue to meet their expenditures, they’ve got a problem, and if their spending exceeds their revenue, they have a problem.

I tell my friend, I understand what you’re saying, but I’ve heard this rhetoric all of my career here in the Congress. When President Reagan was President, we never overrode a Presidential veto of an appropriation bill because it spent too much. If he vetoed it, it spent too much, he never had a veto overridden. Nevertheless, we incurred an additional $1.5 trillion in deficits. Under President George H.W. Bush, we didn’t override any veto of his, and of course not only did we incur an additional $1 trillion. That was a $2.5 trillion plus.

Under the Clinton administration, of course, in the economic program as you and I both know that your party universally opposed, we had a surplus, the only T. tsidn in my real lifetime and I think in mine, which is substantially longer, that’s had 4 years of surplus. Now, I know you say, the response that Mr. DREHER gave to me, is that, well, yes, we took over the Congress in 1995. That’s right, but of course we also did take over the Congress in 1995, but in 2000, you took over the Presidency as well and controlled the House and the Senate and the Presidency.

And during that period of time, we didn’t pass any appropriation bills on our side. You were in full charge during the Bush administration’s first six years, and $3.5 trillion of deficit spending was incurred, making a total of over $5 trillion of deficit spending during the time that your party took the position that we didn’t have a revenue problem, we had a spending problem.

Well, it ended up being a $5 trillion deficit problem, adding to the deficit for our children and for my grandchildren and for my great-grandchildren, and I’m concerned about that. And that is why I’m so concerned about statutory PAYGO, sticking with CBO scores, and accommodating our spending and revenue. They are both related, I say, and we cannot ignore either. Eliminating revenue without eliminating spending does cause deficits I think is to ignore reality.

So I would hope my friend would talk to Mr. RYAN of the Budget Committee and bring us legislation which would, in fact, do what you and I want to do; that is, eliminate the deficit. If we’ve got two messages during this past election, in my view, it was, A, focus on creating new jobs, and we did that. We looked at what Americans are hurting. We had some good job numbers this month. We’ve created over 1.3 million jobs this past year as opposed to losing almost 4 million jobs in the last year of the Bush administration. But as you and I’ve said so often, it’s not success. Success will be when every American who wants a job, willing to work, can find a job, and they can support him or her and their families.

But we need to pretend that revenues and spending are not inextricably related, and that if we give up revenues before we do the difficult thing, the tough thing, the adult thing, as Mr. BOEINER said, and cut the spending, the main concern of course is we’re buying it, then we ought to be paying for it and not passing along the bill to our grandchildren, and I hope the gentleman would pursue that.

If the gentleman wants to respond to that, I want to say something about health care briefly.

Mr. CANTOR. You know, Madam Speaker, the gentleman and I have gone through these discussions for the last 2 years, and when we get into discussing spending, I normally posit a quote from Winston Churchill when he said, When we open a quarrel between the past and the present, we shall find we have lost the future.

And what my response is, Madam Speaker, we are looking to see that we do take the tough steps and cut spending. So I’m hopeful with all the renewed enthusiasm that all of us have gained after the election towards fiscal sanity that the gentleman and his caucus can’t see us and vote with us in terms of the spending cuts that we’ll be bringing to the floor every week.

The gentleman speaks about revenues, and absolutely, as an ongoing concern, this government has to be concerned with that. But we first and foremost must understand—and I think both of us realize, Madam Speaker, that in order to have revenues, we’ve got to have a growing economy—and so there is balance, and that is where perhaps it is my hope that we can work together by putting priorities in place, cutting spending, growing the economy. And that’s the formula by which we will be operating, and I’m hopeful we can operate in that formula together.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate the gentleman’s comment, and briefly in closing, Madam Speaker, let me say this. I hope we can cooperate, but we do have a divergence, as my friend pointed out, and that’s of course the nature of what the House is all about. We do engage in debates from different points of view. Frankly, my experience, as I have said, is that when we diverged in a point of view in 1993, when my Republican friends took the position that accommodating revenues to spending would, in fact, from their perspective, be a job killer—they talk a lot about job-killing legislation. They all voted against that legislation in 1993, and in fact, some of my colleagues on my side have voted for that legislation because of voting for that piece of legislation. In fact, however, it helped create the most robust economy anybody in this Chamber has experienced in their lifetime. It created over 22 million jobs, as opposed to losing 8 million jobs in the last administration under President Bush, so that there was a substantial difference which you can see, touch, and feel and read about and know about.

So I tell my friend, yes, there’s a difference of opinion, but there’s no difference of opinion on what happened, and when Winston Churchill, who you quoted before and of whom I’m a great fan, one of the things that Winston Churchill was most known for was trying to remind his British friends: don’t forget what dictators and despots do—and I make no aspersions, I want to make that clear. I’m simply saying he believed strongly in learning from the past and not continuing to make mistakes and not continue to do what failed in years before.

So I agree with the gentleman in looking at the past for instruction on how to make the future better and to create those jobs that both he and I want to create and that the America certainly is looking for us to create.

I thank the gentleman for this colloquy.

HOUR OF MEETING

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday next for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

COLOMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

MR. RIVERA. Madam Speaker, I rise today for the first time to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. RIVERA. Madam Speaker, I rise today for the first time to address the House and express my strong support for passage of a free trade agreement with Colombia. Colombia is America’s fourth-largest trading partner in Latin America, and the U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that 9,000 American companies trade with Colombia, most of which are small businesses and manufacturing companies that operate in my district in south Florida.

While 90 percent of Colombian goods enter the U.S. duty free, American
companies still pay tariffs for U.S. goods to enter Colombia. The Colombia Free Trade Agreement would eliminate obstacles and immediately boost U.S. exports to Colombia. By passing a free trade agreement with Colombia, U.S. GDP would increase by roughly $25 billion and exports by over $1 billion, creating thousands of jobs in the United States. The Colombia Free Trade Agreement is also a positive foreign policy gesture to one of our most reliable allies in the region and the oldest continuous functioning democracy in all of South America.

Madam Speaker, it’s time to stand with one of our best allies in Latin America and create thousands of jobs here at home with passage of a Colombia Free Trade Agreement.

NO HEALTH CARE REPEAL

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am wondering whether many of you understand what we did today. Frankly, we gave permission for more Americans to die from a lack of good health care. In fact, as I presented my amendments to the Rules Committee last evening, I was reminded, if you will, of those who really suffer because of a lack of access to good health care. I offered an amendment to ensure that H.R. 2, to repeal this good health care bill, would not eliminate what we call community health clinics and deny rural and urban areas of good doctors and nurses who treat the children and seniors. And then I asked that we protect the middle class and not have the insurance rates go up. And finally, an amendment to make sure that we don’t have Medicaid and Medicare fraud and abuse and to protect those who need Medicaid, as my State of Texas is going to eliminate it. So people will die as we proceed in this untimely and ludicrous process.

But I’m glad that Pastor D.Z. Cofield in my district will ascend to the presidency of the NAACP in our local community. I believe with all of these good thinking people, we will be able to rise up and save the lives and oppose any repeal of this good affordable care bill.

SPECIAL ORDERS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER 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 Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, those who are watching this today may wonder what just happened in the House of Representatives. And I want to talk a little bit about it so they understand what goes on next week on the Floor of the House. We set the stage for the passage of the Republican health care plan. It won’t be a repeal of what the Democratic Congress did before. It will be returning us to the status quo where the health care insurance industry in this country is totally in control of the private insurance industry.

Now, yesterday I was on a conference call with groups that represent 18,000 physicians who want us not to act and repeal the Health Care Act next week. They have taken resolutions in every district around this country among physicians. They have delivered them to the Speaker’s Office, Mr. Boehner in Cincinnati. They have taken them to Mr. Cantor’s office in Virginia. Because doctors know what this act really does.

I listened to a couple of my colleagues who are physicians, and I heard them say, we want to repeal it all. But the 18,000 people who I was talking to, or their representatives, on the phone yesterday were talking about what the real experience is out in the doctors’ offices, not on the floor of the House or not in some political arena where we are making points, but when you are actually dealing with patients.

I am a physician. I have been there. I have done it also. I have had phone calls from Omaha, Nebraska, about whether I can continue to see a patient. And every doctor who has practiced in this country in the last 30 years knows that is what goes on. They know that patients don’t have health insurance because they have a pre-existing condition. They know that people who thought they had insurance suddenly get an illness and then find out their insurance company won’t cover them because of some technicality or whatever they find. They worry about the children who want to finish college at age 21 or 22 and can no longer be covered on their insurance policy. But with the bill that we passed last year, those young people can be covered from age 22 to 26 until they get a job where they have health care benefits. Those are the reasons why doctors want to see this bill stay in place and be enacted.

Now, what we’re going to see out here next week is political theater. I call it the Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing Follies Act of 2011. We have a piece of legislation which we weren’t told about today. It is exactly one page long and repeals everything that happened. It repeals the prohibition against pre-existing condition exclusions. It allows insurers to no longer cover children over the age of 22. It sets lifetime limits again on people’s insurance policies. All of that occurs here in one single piece of paper, with no debate, no committee hearings, no attempt to find out what’s going on out there in the community. It’s a political document for a political purpose for a part of the Republican Party. It is not what the American people are actually feeling.

Now, what you will hear next week is even more interesting because we are going to get a fraudulent piece of legislative hot air. They will say, Well, yes, we are repealing ObamaCare. You know, it’s strange. They never call Medicare “Johnson Medicare.” It passed under President Johnson. I wonder why not. Because it was for all Americans. It’s not the President. It’s the body that sits here that passes the legislation that covers all Americans. And yet we are now, next week, going to be offered this piece of fraudulent hot air. It’s House Resolution 9. They will say, Yes, we’re repealing that, but we have this.

And when you read H. Res. 9, it’s one page of nothing. Read it. You’ve got the weekend.

THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

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

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, much of my district comprises forests managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Over the last 2 years, I have received a growing volume of complaints protecting the increasing exclusionary and elitist policies of this agency. These complaints charge the Forest Service, among other things, with imposing inflated fees that are forcing the abandonment of family cabins held for generations, charging exorbitant new fees that are closing down long-established community events upon which many small and struggling mountain towns depend for tourism, expelling longstanding grazing operations on precious ground, destroying damage both to the local economy and to the Federal Government’s revenues, and obstructing the sound management of our forests through a policy that can only be described as benign neglect, creating both severe fire dangers and massive unemployment.

Practiced in the marketplace, we would renounce these taxes as predatory and abusive. In the public sector, they are intolerable.

Combined, these actions evince an ideologically driven hostility to the public ownership of the public land and a clear intention to deny the public the responsible and sustainable use of that land.
Most recently, the Forest Service has placed severe restrictions on vehicle access to the Plumas National Forest, despite volumes of public protests. Supervisor Bill Connelly, chairman of the Butte County Board of Supervisors writes that “the restriction applies to such activities as collecting and exchanging game, loading or unloading horses or other livestock and camping.”

He goes on to write: “The national forests are part of the local fabric. The roads within our national forests are used by thousands of residents and visitors for transportation and recreation. These activities generate revenue for our rural communities which is critical for their survival.”

Mr. Speaker, this is not a small matter. The Forest Service now controls 193 million acres within our Nation, a land area equivalent to the size of Texas.

During the despotic eras of Norman and Plantagenet England, the Crown declared one-third of the land area of southern England to be the royal forest, the exclusive preserve of the monarch, his forestry officials and favored aristocrats. The people of Britain were forbidden to enter, and enjoy the benefits of these forests under harsh penalties. This exclusionary system became so despised by the British people that in 1215 no less than five clauses of the Magna Carta were devoted to redress of grievances that are hauntingly similar to those that are now flooding my office.

Mr. Speaker, the attitude that now permeates the U.S. Forest Service from top to bottom is becoming far more reminiscent of the management of the royal forests during the autocracy of King John than of an agency that is supposed to encourage, welcome, facilitate and maximize the public’s use of the public’s land in a Nation of free men and women.

After all, that was the vision of the Forest Service set forth by its legendary founder, Gifford Pinchot, in 1905: “To provide the greatest amount of good for the greatest amount of people in the long run.”

In May of 2009 and April of 2010, some of my California colleagues and I sent letters to the Forest Service expressing these concerns. I’ve also personally met with senior officials of that agency on several occasions in which I have referenced more than 900 specific complaints of Forest Service abuses received by my office.

All that I have received to date from these officials are smarmy assurances that they will address these concerns, assurances that their own actions have belied at every turn.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to conduct a top-to-bottom review of the abuses by this increasingly unaccountable and elitist agency to demand accountability for the damage it has done and is doing to our forests’ health, to the public’s trust, to the government’s revenues and to the Nation’s economy, and to take whatever actions are necessary to restore an attitude of consumer-friendly public service, which was Gifford Pinchot’s original vision, and for which the U.S. Forest Service was once renowned and respected.

HEALTH CARE ACT—SIGNED WITH BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS

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

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was there when the President of the United States of America signed into law the health care act that is sought to be repealed. I was within 20 feet of the President; and at the time he signed it, there was a feeling of great jubilation, but also there was a feeling of great consternation because, as I knew that it was signed in tears, written in the tears of the many parents who saw their children with preexisting conditions and could not get insurance for the illness that their children had; signed in ink, written in tears, but the restrictions, the restrictions, the restrictions, the restrictions, the restrictions, the restrictions were signed in the sweat of the many persons who toiled for more than 50 years to get health care for all Americans; signed in ink, written in sweat, tears and in blood, written in the blood of the millions of people who because of the restrictions did not get health care, and also of the many who died because they could not get the insurance that would afford them health care.

I was there. I knew what the circumstances were. At the time the bill was signed, we were spending $2.5 trillion per year on health care; $2.5 trillion is $79,000 a second on health care. That was approximately 17.6 percent of our GDP. And by 2018 it would have been over $4.1 trillion per year, which would have been more than 20 percent of GDP and $339,000 a second. Signed in ink, written in blood, sweat and tears.

I knew where we were at the time it was signed. In my State, we had 6 million uninsured, 1.1 million in Harris County, and 20 percent of the children in Texas uninsured when that bill was signed. Still in America we have millions that are not getting the proper attention that they need, but there is the potential to get it because of this bill.

At the time it was signed, we had more than 40 million people uninsured. The bill covered some 30-plus million people. We had 21 million people who were working full-time and did not have insurance. 45,000 people per year were dying because they didn’t have insurance. That’s one person every 12 minutes. Twenty-one million people were working full-time and did not have insurance. That bill brought people under the umbrella of health care and health insurance.

The greatness of America is not going to be measured by how many great buildings we build and how many people we can cut out of health care. It’s not going to be measured by the people that we can put in the streets of life. The greatness of America will be measured by how we treat people in the streets of life. This bill addresses people in the streets of life who can die because they don’t get the health care that the richest country in the world can provide.

I respect those who vote however they choose. But as for me, I am going to stand with those people who need health care and who are going to get it under this bill because preexisting conditions no longer exist.

And for edification purposes, for those who do not know, children under the age of 26, many of them required to get health care because they couldn’t stay on their parents’ policies, they can now stay with their parents. The doughnut hole for seniors is being closed with this bill. The doughnut hole, for edification purposes, is that point in time when a senior has to pay for all of the pharmaceuticals that a senior might receive and need. And these pharmaceuticals are expensive. This bill addresses these things.

This bill is a lifeline for many persons in this country. I will support it and I will say more about it in the future. I stand with the American people who need health care.

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 addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.

REINTRODUCTION OF TITLE X ABORTION PROVIDER PROHIBITION ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the largest abortion provider in America should not also be the largest recipient of Federal funding under title X.

Today, with the support of more than 120 of my colleagues, I introduced the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act. I am grateful for the support of my colleagues within this House and the support of millions of Americans who long to see this Congress take this decisive action on behalf of our values.

The Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act would deny any family planning funds under title X from going to Planned Parenthood or other organizations that perform abortions. It would
ensure that abortion providers are not subsidized with Federal tax dollars.

Now, let me say, to be very clear, Mr. Speaker, this legislation does not cut one penny from title X family planning funding. I applaud much of the important work that is done at title X clinics across this country: breast cancer screening, HIV protection, education, counseling, pregnancy diagnosis. This legislation simply prevents family planning funding from aiding organizations that profit from the abortion industry.

Federal funding should reflect the priorities and the values of a majority of the American people. Whatever people think about abortion across this country since Roe v. Wade, survey after survey has shown that an overwhelming majority of Americans oppose the use of taxpayer dollars to support, subsidize, or promote abortion at home or abroad. It is for that reason that I would assume that most Americans would be pleased, if not shocked, to learn that the largest abortion provider in America is also the largest recipient of Federal funding under title X. But that is most certainly the case.

According to their own annual report, Planned Parenthood received more than $363 million in government funding in 2009 alone. During that time, they performed an unprecedented 324,008 abortions, a heartbreaking statistic. Planned Parenthood of America continues to receive a greater amount of Federal funding each year while simultaneously taking over an increasing share of the devastating abortion market in this country.

Now, look, Planned Parenthood and its defenders will claim that the money they have received from the government has not been used to fund abortions, but that is only technically true. Current law prohibits the use of title X family planning funds “in programs where abortion is a method of family planning.” ‘Therein lies the loophole.

While title X money cannot directly be used to fund abortions, common sense says there is no question that taxpayer dollars received by Planned Parenthood are used to cover allowed expenses, like overhead, operational costs, thus freeing up other money for the clinics that do provide abortion. And in many of our largest cities, title X clinics run by Planned Parenthood are literally just steps away from abortion providers operated by Planned Parenthood, many times in the same building.

This legislation would close that loophole that has forced millions of pro-life Americans to subsidize the Nation’s leading abortion provider sustaining and underwriting this nefarious trade.

I urge my colleagues to support the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act. I urge our new majority to bring this legislation forward with all deliberative speed.

Let me say again. The largest abortion provider in America should not also be the largest recipient of Federal funding under title X.

For the sake of American taxpayers, for the sake of the important work being done at title X clinics across this country, and, most importantly, for the sake of the defenseless unborn and vulnerable young women who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy, we must enact the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act and end the day of taxpayer support for these organizations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extentions of Remarks.)

CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING AND SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, campaign fundraising and spending is way out of control. We need a constitutional amendment to fix it. The American people have to help this Congress, because it will not do it by itself.

Many years ago, Will Rogers, whose statue sits just outside the doors to this Chamber, joked, “We have the best Congress money can buy.” Unfortunately, that joke has not grown old.

After witnessing this past election cycle, the campaign money expended to elect this Congress, both Chambers, is way out of bounds. The Center for Responsive Politics estimates that a record-breaking $4 billion was spent in the 2010 midterm elections.

Now, $4 billion is 4,000 millions. So 4,000 millions was spent to elect the current sitting Congress. The number of Members being elected didn’t change. The amount of money being raised changed. It skyrocketed. The opportunity for people of ordinary means with great talent to gain election to office in our country is disappearing election after election. It’s very hard for talented people of ordinary means to raise 4,000 millions.

To put that number in perspective, 4 billion, or 4,000 millions, divides up to about $8.5 million spent on each of the 435 seats in this Chamber and those who are up for election in the other; $8,500,000,000 having to be raised every 2 years. Yes, an average of $8.5 million per Member was expended in each of the races. That is 50 times more than the amount of money the job pays. We would be better off to say to the American people, “We’re going to get rid of all of this campaign donation stuff and just beg our salaries from the public.”

As I have said before, and we wouldn’t have to spend it on all those ridiculous ads. Imagine the outrageous amount of fundraising that sits on the head of every single Member in this Chamber.

This past congressional election, in fact, was more expensive than even the last Presidential cycle in which $2 billion was spent. And they said that that was the most expensive race in U.S. history. Wall Street financiers were the major contributor in that Presidential race.

How is it that as our country is fighting to recover from near economic collapse and the average American is struggling to make ends meet, national unemployment still at 9.4 percent, somehow billions and billions of dollars were able to be thrown by big interests to affect the election? It is because, unlike the average American, big financial players, big business, multinational corporations, all kinds of well-funded ideological groups have deep pockets, and they do try to buy access and influence what happens. And this situation makes it much more difficult for ordinary Americans to have their voices heard here.

The American people know this. They are frustrated. These big interests should not outweigh the American people’s voice nor vote. The American people should have the primary access and influence here, not deep-pocketed interests. Truly the American campaign finance system is out of control. We all know it, and we all know it needs to be fixed, and that ought to be a priority of this new Congress.

Real campaign finance reform thus far has been unattainable because neither party wants to stop the money chase because they both think that next time out they might be the ones to really grab all those gold rings. Too much of that money is playing insider politics, and that is why the American people feel that they are being forced to the sidelines rather than the front lines in our elections. They feel like they are pushing a boulder up the hill, and every time they cast their vote, that somehow that boulder comes right back down on them.

Reform is being thwarted again and again by outside interest groups and deep-pocket interests. The Congress is unwilling and seemingly unable to act on its own, along with Supreme Court rulings like Citizens United v. FEC and Buckley v. Valeo.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced H.R. 8, a new constitutional amendment that I put in every session to bring this system under control. There could be no more important priority to our country than giving our politics back to the American people again.

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

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extentions of Remarks.)
Marine Fights for Old Glory

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

Mr. Poe of Texas. Mr. Speaker, history, heritage and symbols of the United States are constantly under scrutiny in this country. Even when we read the Constitution of the United States on the House floor, the first time it has ever been done in 200 years, there were some who complained that it is irrelevant. It is kind of like church that covers their ears when certain sections of the Bible are read. They don’t want to hear it because it may apply to them.

People go to court nowadays to try to remove our national motto, In God We Trust. It is above the flag, Mr. Speaker, although television very seldom shows our national motto.

Then there are those who are offended by the American flag, Old Glory. It is not even displayed in parts of the United States because it offends some people. Some people that are included in the group are foreigners who are offended by the American flag.

Now we get to today, a report by the Houston Chronicle about Marine Michael Merola, a 60-year-old vet from the United States Marine Corps, and he flies, here he is, he still looks like a Marine, this is a photograph from the Chronicle that shows Old Glory and, of course, the Marine flag, flying in his backyard on a 20-foot flagpole.

No one has complained. His neighbors like it. Kids walk by and actually compliment him on flying Old Glory and the Marine flag. But the neighborhood association has complained and sued.

Now, who is this guy? Well, he served in the United States Marines from 1969 to 1977. He trained with the United States Navy SEALs. After he left the Marine Corps, he was responsible as sergeant major of the guard for raising the flag at NSA right down the road. He is from New York, but he got to Texas as fast as he could, and he has no intention of taking down this flag or flagpole. He is a passionate American. He is a Marine.

But the association doesn’t like it, and here is what they have said in their lawsuit: the flagpole is a detriment to the association. It causes imminent harm and irreparable injury to the association. The problem with the flagpole of that height and that significance is it flaps in the wind and causes noise to other homeowners. That is their problem. So they sued him.

Now, first of all, we have an issue of freedom of speech. The Supreme Court has said it is a right to fly the flag. Speech includes the flying of the American flag. It is the symbol of everything that is good and right about America. That is why it is behind you, Mr. Speaker, when we go into session every day.

Marines and sailors and soldiers and members of the Coast Guard have fought under that flag all over the world and have died for that flag so the association can exist down there in northwest Houston. Right now we are engaged in two wars, in Afghanistan and Iraq, and members of our military are fighting under that flag. But it is flying in the breeze and offends the association. The flapping causes irreplaceable injury.

Well, flapping in the breeze has brought safety to the United States. The flag flying throughout the world and the noise, if we can use that word, too, some people are offended by the sound of that flag flying in the United States and throughout the world. It is freedom of speech, and it trumps the elitist concept that the flag and the flagpole are offensive to the association.

You know, Mr. Merola is a marine. Once a marine, always a marine. And we are proud of our marines in the United States. They are a unique bunch. That was best said by an Army general about the Marines, “There are only two groups that understand the Marines, the marines, and the enemy.” And that is correct.

So good for you, Mike Merola. Keep your flagpole up. Fly Old Glory. Fly the marine flag. We are proud of you. Keep fighting for the flag, because freedom of flying the flag trumps the concept that it is offensive to some people. God bless our marines, God bless you, Mike Merola, and semper fi. And that’s just the way it is.

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 Arizona (Mr. Frank) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

Health Care and Other Issues

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. King) is recognized for 6 minutes as the designee of the majority leader, Mr. King of Iowa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I very much appreciate the privilege to address you here on the floor of the House in this leadership hour designated by the majority leader.

There are a number of subjects I wanted to take up this afternoon, but I am first inspired by the statement made by the gentleman from Texas, Judge, Congressman, Mr. Poe, about Marine Mike Merola.

This is one of these recurring stories that we hear across the country. Somebody that is an ACLU individual, somebody that thinks somehow they get indignant because there is something somewhere that would allow them to vent some of their prepackaged hyperventilation against patriotism or the truth or life or the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence or the values of Western Civilization or Judeo-Christianity, all those people out there are full of indignities.

So an American flag and a marine flag offends somebody? I say tough. I think you are to fight for that flag. Fly it proud and fly it long.

I especially appreciate the statement made by Mr. Poe about the sound of that flag. My flag is on a flagpole about that same height, 20 foot. I step out my door in the morning. I check the wind and the weather and I look at that flag, and I listen to that sound. And there is times I am sitting there in the dark at night on my deck and I am hearing that flag from the light that shines on it and it adds the corner just a little bit, and I hear that ripple of Old Glory. It gives me comfort and it gives me pride, and it reminds me of the privilege of serving here, anywhere you can serve Americans anywhere on this globe.

Every kind of discontented, counter-cultural, anti-American group was represented in those thousands of people that came here that day. I saw every counter-cultural, anti-American group was represented. I remember former chairman of the Judiciary Committee, John Conyers, standing on a little stage there with great big speakers calling for the impeachment of President Bush because it looked like there was an impending liberation of Iraq. And I saw a man there.

Every kind of discontented, counter-cultural, anti-American group was represented in those thousands of people that came here that day. I saw every counter-cultural, anti-American group was represented. I remember former chairman of the Judiciary Committee, John Conyers, standing on a little stage there with great big speakers calling for the impeachment of President Bush because it looked like there was an impending liberation of Iraq. And I saw a man there.

He reached in his pocket of his jacket, a worn leather jacket, and pulled out of his pocket a flag, an American flag, a silk American flag, a small flag, and he used it to wipe the tears of his camera. That is an image I will never forget.

But no one stepped up to say he couldn’t do that. Where were they then? Where were the critics of Mr. Merola then? When flags are used as grease rags to scrub the lens of a camera that is taking pictures of anti-Americans joined together to protest the saving of our freedom that Marine Merola has stepped up to defend, those actions are offensive to me, and I say guard the flag, defend the flag, and I will stand with you, and I know Judge Poe will too. Thanks
for bringing this up. I appreciate it, Judge.

I came here to talk about a number of things tonight. One of them is the repeal of ObamaCare. Freedom-loving Americans fought this for a long time. It began to roll out at us in the summer of— I’ve got to roll my years back now—in the summer of 2008, when President Obama was elected. I should actually take you back through a little bit of this history, Mr. Speaker, because there’s some of these components that the American people forget about.

There was a relatively unknown State senator from Illinois named Barack Obama, and he gave a speech before a national convention of the Democratic Party. That elevated him into some level of national prominence. There were those that decided they wanted to move him forward to become President of the United States, Hillary Clinton also decided she wanted to be President of the United States. And these two found themselves—actually, after John Edwards, anyway— locking horns, the two of them, for the nomination of the Presidency of the United States under the Democrat Party. I know a little bit about this. Barack Obama’s movement began in Iowa. He brought his people over from Chicago and they started a movement and he did battle with Hillary Clinton in Iowa. John Edwards was there, of course. That went on for 4 years.

But we have to remember that here, in 1993 and 1994, when Bill Clinton was elected President, remember, he said you get at two of—you get Hillary and you get Bill. Well, I wasn’t all that happy getting Bill, let alone Hillary. But he assigned Hillary the job of writing a national health care act. And this was a complete takeover of our health care in the United States. Socialized medicine in the purer form than ObamaCare is today.

We watched as this unfolded and she set up closed-door meetings and they cooked up this bill. And I recall the flow chart of the HillaryCare bill. I had a laminated copy of it in my office, my construction office in Odebolt, Iowa. And it gives me chills to think yet about the expansion of government that emerged from the HillaryCare proposal.

But we need to remember, Mr. Speaker, the relevant component of that is yes, a government takeover of health care that had been advanced and advocated in this country for quite a few years. But America’s rejection of HillaryCare was resounding. And if Bill Clinton were going to maintain his capital as a President, they had to pull that bill down. The American people were against HillaryCare. I was against it. It actually animated me into getting engaged in politics. I do not think I would be here today if it were not for that. Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton deciding they were going to step in and take our liberty.

But, in any case, Hillary Clinton’s credentials, now Secretary of State— and with all due respect, and I mean that honestly—her credentials on health care were greater than those of Barack Obama. He had to build himself foreign policy credentials and he had to build himself health care credentials. And so they turned the Presidential nomination debate into a health care debate, a health insurance debate. And as they battled their ideas out, they had to find ways that they could separate themselves from each other and still remain Democrats.

And so we heard all kinds of statements out of Barack Obama as he competed for credibility on the policy of health care. And in the process of doing that, they convinced the American people that they were in a health care crisis in America. They intentionally and willfully, and I’m talking about Democrats in general, conflated two terms. They ended up duping the American people. They conflated the term health care and the term health insurance, to the point now where, when we hear someone say health care, we don’t know whether they’re saying health insurance or whether it’s actually taking care of someone.

I recall then the newly elected Governor of Iowa, Chet Culver, now just voted out of office, came out here to the Capitol to sit down with the congressional delegation of the Iowa congressional delegation. We sat in a conference room over in the Senate. And he said, There are 40,000 kids in Iowa that don’t have health care. We’ve got to get them health care. And I looked at him and I said, Governor, I don’t think that’s true. I don’t think there are any kids in Iowa that don’t have health care. Could you give me an example of a child in Iowa that doesn’t have health care. Well, no, he couldn’t do that. Neither could he actually even tell me that he has health insurance. I had to feed that line to him because he’s the one that’s in charge of the numbers that are here that are here illegally. That’s at least 12 million, 12.1 million. I believe it’s more than 20 million, but I’ll take the 12 million. And I have to guess at the totals because it’s such a big number while since I’ve run through these.

But, generally speaking, you take 47 million that are listed as uninsured by the Democrats and you subtract from those that are uninsured, illegals, those that qualify for Medicaid, but don’t bother to sign up, those that make over $75,000 a year and presumably could provide their own health insurance, those that qualify under their employer but have turned down that opportunity for that health insurance. And when you get done subtracting those that do have options, including affordable options, and you narrow the 47 million down to those who do not have their own health insurance policy and do not have affordable options, that’s 12 million. That’s actually the 12.1 million number I reached to remember. That’s less than 4 percent of the United States population without their own health insurance policy and without an affordable option. Less than 4 percent. What percent of the health care industry did they want to take over in order to address that less than 4 percent, those 12.1 million? A hundred percent. Barack Obama proposed to take over 100 percent of our health care industry in America in order to get at those less than 4 percent that are uninsured, without an affordable option.

He told us—remember these things—We’re in an economic crisis. We’re in an economic crisis, and we can’t fix this economic crisis—Barack Obama—unless we first fix health care. And how do we do that? Well, the argument against it by him, and Hillary Clinton and many others, We spend too much money on health care. What’s their solution? Spend a lot more. Throw a trillion dollars at health care. He also argued that if you like your policy, you can keep it.
If you like your doctor, can you keep him. And when he said it, he knew that that commitment could not be kept. You can’t keep your health insurance policy if the policy doesn’t exist any longer. You can’t keep your health insurance policy if the company doesn’t exist any longer.

The President said we needed to have more competition in the health insurance industry. The demagoguery’s been going on here for the last couple of days about not turning over this country to the health insurance companies, again who get accused of being vipers. Well, they’re in a free market system. They need to be able to compete against each other. The President wants to have—and was not successful in this component—wants to have a Federal health insurance policy, a program, to compete against the health insurance companies. He argued that there needed to be more competition in the health insurance industry.

And so, what does he do? He wants to have the Federal Government do that. Does the President even know how many health insurance companies we have or had at the passage of ObamaCare? Probably not. He’s probably not watching C-SPAN right now, Mr. Speaker, but if any of his staff are out there, I can tell you what that number was: 1,300 health insurance companies in America, 1,300 companies competing against each other. Not all of them against each other; not one company against all the other 1,299, because there’s a McCarran-Ferguson Act that allows the States to protect the insurance companies within their States and set up monopolies or quasi-monopolies within the States.

We’ve seen this pattern happen several times in the past. It happened most recently with the Student Loan Program. The Federal Government took it all over. They started out with the argument that they needed to have another public option—for school loans, student loans, so that they could provide a little more honest competition with the free market.

What do we get out of George Miller, Nancy Pelosi, Barack Obama, and Harry Reid?

We get the complete takeover of the Student Loan Program over a little period of time. A great, giant leap downward to the reconciliation package from the Senate, actually threaded right into this ObamaCare bill.

What’s another pattern? There was a just say, oh, at about the time of the Bay of Pigs—when the Federal Government wasn’t engaged in flood insurance. All of the property and casualty flood insurance in America was privately provided in the marketplace. We know what free enterprise does. If there is a demand, somebody will come up with a business idea to supply that demand. That was going on in the early part of the 1960s until the Federal Government decided they needed to get in and compete with that a little bit, so they set up the Federal Flood Insurance Program.

So what did they do? They drove out all of the private competition. Today, if you’re worried about your house being flooded or your factory being flooded, you have to buy flood insurance from the Federal Government. In order for them to compete with the private market, they passed legislation that, if there were a real estate loan from a Federal bank, they were compelled to buy flood insurance. So they wired in a customer base; they set the premium rates, and they drove everybody out of the flood insurance industry.

While all that’s going on, what do we get out of that? We get a Federal Flood Insurance Program that’s $19.2 billion in the red and no private sector competition. They don’t have to find in and judge, actually, the risk because the industry hasn’t developed.

You know what government does: it atrophies. Anybody who doesn’t have competition doesn’t develop the technology. They don’t develop the new approaches and the innovative ways to market, and they don’t streamline. They don’t have to find savings. They just raise fees or borrow money from a general fund. That’s where the $19.2 billion came from. Then, of course, that’s the American people going into debt for $19.2 billion.

Why? Because the Federal Government decided they wanted to go in and provide a little competition so that they could keep the private sector flood insurance industry honest because the people who passed that are not free market personnel. They are anti-capitalists. They are not capitalists. They are not free enterprise people.

So we have some of the pattern that’s there. We’ve got the flood insurance pattern. We’ve got the pattern of the student loan program. Then we have the pattern of the President wanting to step in and drive out the competition in the health insurance industry.

The American people have watched that component. They’ve watched the statements about: you can keep your health insurance policy. If you like your policy, you can keep it. Yet the Federal Government under ObamaCare regulates every single health insurance policy. And they have practiced the policies you can keep and which policies are banned by regulations to be written later by a gentleman by the name of Berwick, who believes that we should ration health care and not spend out on the lives of people who may be at the end of their lives.

Now, Sarah Palin called that ‘death panels.’ If you have to put something down in a Twitter that explains it all, I think she did that. We’ve seen the manifestation of that out of the Obama administration—with his appointments, with the actions, with their taking the initiative to want to pay doctors to counsel people to accept death when there is medicine that may save them or extend their lives. I don’t think that’s the business of the Federal Government to pay people to counsel others to die quicker. That’s what turns out of that policy, and I’m glad that they removed it. I am glad that it isn’t something that creeps back again, but if you’ve got a Dr. Donald Berwick there, it is going to creep back on us. That’s his philosophy. He is there for a reason.

ObamaCare cannot be allowed to stay in this code. It must go. It has got to be repealed, and we are about to do that.

The first legislative steps on this took place yesterday with the rules debate upstairs—hours of debate on the rule, on how this debate would go on. We debated the rule here on the floor today, and it passed. The chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. Dreier, did an outstanding job of ushering this all in and he has been useful. I think, in also negotiating the types of language that allow for a legitimate debate on the floor of the House—far more legitimate than the debate that actually crammed ObamaCare down the throats of the American people.

So, Mr. Speaker, I come here to celebrate the opportunity to begin taking back a significant measure of American liberty, that is, the repeal of ObamaCare—pulling it out by the roots lock, stock and barrel. We must pull it all out, and we can’t leave one visage of it in.

This ObamaCare the American people understand. They diagnosed it. They looked at it. They felt it and they ran the tests on it. They began to find out what was in it. Remember Speaker Pelosi saying we have to pass this bill in order to find out what’s in it? Well, there is actually some truth in that because no matter what brilliant people are, no matter what their experience, they could have shut themselves up in a room for I don’t care how long they would want—a week, a month, a day, or a
year—and read through those 2,500 pages of ObamaCare and actually understand each component of it and do an analysis and be able to comprehend the implications of that monstrosity that has now become the albatross around the neck of the President and the Democrat Party in the United States of America.

No, no one could understand it. It is that complicated; but over time, we began to see the implications.Republicans predicted many of the implications that were in the bill. We pointed to a lot of the parts of it that were bad; but there wasn’t time, and there weren’t enough people and enough voices to raise all of the issues that are bad about something of this nature.

When you take away people’s liberty, that is a big deal, Mr. Speaker—when you take away the right of people to buy a health insurance policy of their choice. No matter what money they have, no matter what their health, you have to buy a health insurance policy that is approved by Uncle Sam.

Now, I kind of like Uncle Sam. I like his image. I like his colors—red, white and blue—but I don’t like the tarnished image that he was given by ObamaCare. I don’t like the idea of besmirching the memory of Madison and Washington and Franklin and Jefferson. I don’t like the idea that these God-given rights that we have, that clearly our Founding Fathers defined with precision that do come from God, can be besmirched and can take away the freedom-loving people.

But the American people don’t like it either. The American people rose up, Mr. Speaker.

Those who argued that they wanted to offer a whole series of amendments on the repeal of ObamaCare said it’s not an open rule; it’s not an open process, that they want to come down here and be able to offer amendment after amendment after American open rule. Then they think that somehow, by doing so, they can perfect a bad piece of legislation. Well, in their piece of legislation, even they can only name four things that they are willing to defend in 2,500 pages. And they’ll demagogue us on every single one of those.

The four things that they defend are:
Preexisting conditions language. Republicans will address preexisting conditions—existing, not socialized medicine, but with a practical, constitutional, free market approach. That’s fine. We need to have that debate and advance that kind of policy, and that has been part of our agenda all along, for several years now. That’s the first one.

Second one is they claim they closed the doughnut hole. Well, I thought the doughnut hole was a bad idea in 2003. It was there because of the compounding interest rate that was available; but they closed the doughnut hole by increasing fees and taxing others, and low-income people are already exempt from it.

So it isn’t of significance from a policy standpoint. It is philosophically and politically, and so they make their second argument, doughnut hole.

Third one is they think that something that we just couldn’t do without, that should take us all down because we’re willing to repeal the idea that everybody in America would take a Federal mandate in that your children shall stay on there until they’re 26 years old. Now, I’m astonished by this. I’m astonished that Republicans would think that’s a good idea. I can actually name you situations where we elected to Congress at age 25. Now, I don’t know what kind of pride they would have in their newfound adulthood to walk down the aisle, like they did here a couple of days ago to swear into the new 112th Congress, and up until the moment they take the oath of office, they’re still on Mommy and Daddy’s health insurance.

Now, that’s how bad this idea is that we would raise kids up and give them the keys to the car at age 18, and give them the right to vote at age 18, and give them the right to drink at age 21, and keep them on Mom and Daddy’s insurance until they’re 26. Why?

I wanted my kids to grow up. I announced to them when they were 18 that I’m now legally off the hook, guys. We nurtured you as long as we can. We’re still doing that. We don’t have to anymore. I’m so proud of what they’ve accomplished and what they’ve promised to do, but I wanted my kids to grow up, and that should be our goal when we’re raising them, not to keep them children forever, keep them on our insurance until age 26. To what purpose? Can’t they defend themselves and find a way?

And by the way, insurance companies, if there’s a market for this, isn’t there going to be a policy out there that you can buy, at your own choice, that will allow you to keep insurance on your kids? If there’s a market for it, they can make it right there for Medicare. It’s all right if it’s driven by the free market. It’s actually constitutional if the States want to impose such a ridiculous mandate, but it’s not constitutional and it’s not all right if the Federal Government imposes such a thing because it raises the cost of everybody’s premium, and it limits our choices and it taxes people that don’t have any kids, people that are on individual policies.

So there’s three things in ObamaCare that they are proud of, and I’m not particularly proud of any of those three. Actually, the fourth one may come to me and I’ll bring it up in a moment, Mr. Speaker, but here’s another rub.

ObamaCare wipes out more than half of the health savings accounts opportunity that’s there. We established health savings accounts in part D in 2003. A young couple could start in today with $5,150 in their health savings account, and let’s just say they got married—fell in love, got married, age 20. I can do the math, which is why I use the age 20, Mr. Speaker. And they maxed out on their health savings account at $5,150 that first year. It’s adjusted for COLA, and so we go up, that amount would go up each year as they went through their happy married bliss for the next 45 years until they qualified for Medicare.

Now, I’d like to see that expanded, but here’s how this works. If you look historically back over the last 30 or 40 years, you will see that that type of an investment made on any account—in this case, at a 4 percent compounded interest rate, not over the last 2 or 3 but over the last 30 or 40. That’s a reasonable number to predict. And so your couple that started with an HSA with $5,150 and deposited the max in it every year and spent $2,000 a year out for normal medical expenses would arrive at Medicare eligibility age with about $850,000 in their health savings account. Boy, what a glorious opportunity that is.

So it isn’t of significance from a policy standpoint. But here’s another rub. The Federal Government’s interested in that $950,000 because they want to tax it. They want to tax it as ordinary income when it’s taken out of the health savings account if it’s not used for health along the way.

I suggest this. Why wouldn’t we say to that couple, take the money that’s in your health savings account, buy a Medicare replacement policy, a paid-up-for-life Medicare replacement policy—be worth about $72,000 per person at this point, so $144,000 out of this $950,000, and so you get what, $806,000 left over. That’s the change.

I would say to Americans who had this kind of responsibility for themselves and for prudence. Keep the change. Take yourself off the Medicare entitlement rolls when you’re eligible by buying a paid-up replacement policy, annuitized policy. Keep the change tax free. Travel the world. Will it to your kids. Do what you want to do.

And if we do that, we turn health savings accounts into life management accounts, Mr. Speaker, these kind of accounts that young people would have on the day they start their account in their health savings account, and they would nurture it and protect it and want it built up to the point where it’s 20, 30, 40, $50,000, $100,000. They would be there in this private market of insurance that we must preserve and protect—actually got to go back and restore it by repealing ObamaCare.

They would be in that marketplace saying, I want a $10,000 deductible policy. I want a major medical deductible policy. I can have a higher copayment policy. I need lower premiums. I have the prospect of good health. I exercise. I watch my diet. I watch my weight. I exercise. I want a major medical deductible policy.

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things. Insurance should be for the things that we can’t fund ourselves. That’s why it’s there. It’s protection so that you don’t go broke when something catastrophic happens.

We would have people not only managing their own, they’d be managing their health insurance premiums. They’d be advocating for lower premiums. They’d be saving more money in their health savings account, managing their health for a lifetime while their health savings account transitions into a pension plan.

This is a full lifetime management account, and why can’t we do that in the United States of America? These free people that we are, why can’t we do that in the United States of America?

Well, ObamaCare goes in and cuts out more than half of the amount that they can contribute into their health savings account because ObamaCare is about national takeover of our health care, and a health insurance industry eventually, but it’s about also expanding the dependency class in America. It’s about causing people to give up on trying and taking care of themselves and just finally sighing and get in line with the rest of the sheep and go submit to the government-run health care plan. And when they tell you you can’t have a test, then you don’t go for a second opinion; you’ve already been trained to accept the ruling of the State. So, if this is your test you or they don’t; they give you treatment or they don’t.

You can look up to Canada to see the waiting list times for hip replacements, knee replacements. One of those, I believe it’s the knee replacement, is 194 days that you wait. The hip replacement then is three-hundred-and-some days. It’s possible it’s the other way around, but we’re dealing with half a year or more, almost a year in waiting time.

I remember a presentation that was given downstairs in HC-9 a year or so ago. A doctor from northern Michigan, Dr. Jansma as I recall, has written a book on this, but he went up across the border to work within the emergency room in a hospital in Canada, and he had done a lot of orthopaedic surgery. And there was an individual that tore his hip. He had a really bad left hip, put him on crutches, and he had to limp around for 6 months with a torn-up knee. He needed to get his knee fixed. So it’s going to be free with his government health insurance. So it’s going to be free with his government.

Well, then you would think that that surgery might happen, oh, the next day like it would in America. But it didn’t happen until another 6 months. Mr. Speaker, 6 months to wait for government approval for surgery that would have happened the next day in the United States of America with this doctor, another 6 months just to approve, then another 6 months to get the doctor look at his knee and approve that he needed surgery.

Well, you then would think that that surgery might happen, oh, the next day like it would in America. But it didn’t happen until another 6 months. It took 6 months to schedule this young man to go before the specialist to do the secondary diagnosis to approve the need for the surgery so that they could rationalize spending taxpayer dollars to fix his leg. So it’s going to be free health care up there, but you don’t get it unless the right doctor, the one who’s appointed by the State, approves the surgery.

So from the day of the time his knee was torn up and they took him into the emergency room, they had to patch him up, put him on crutches, and he had to limp around for 6 months with a torn-up knee to go in and have the government look at his knee and approve that he needed surgery.

Well, you then would think that that surgery might happen, oh, the next day like it would in America. But it didn’t happen until another 6 months. Mr. Speaker, 6 months to wait for government approval for surgery that would have happened the next day in the United States of America with this doctor, another 6 months just to approve, then another 6 months to get the doctor look at his knee and approve that he needed surgery. And how much rehab does it take to put somebody back in shape after their leg is atrophied for a year and they have drug it around on crutches?

It’s amazing. It’s amazing that it’s so hard for them to hear the message. Do they still have the level of arrogance? Is it still an intellectual elitism of liberalism, the leftists that think that they have apparently some kind of gift of intelligence that supersedes the common sense and the wisdom of the American people, that they reject? That the American people reject that and we have 87 new faces here that I believe are God’s gift to America, Mr. Speaker.

And I so look forward to the impact. We have already seen the impact. We have the impact in the rules package vote. We have seen the impact in the rules vote here today. And we’ll see the impact on the repeal of ObamaCare on Wednesday after this rule that provides for—I guess I didn’t keep it with me. I believe it’s for 7 hours of debate. NANCY PELOSI would give us an hour split, 30 minutes on each side, no amendments. Seven hours of debate, a debate on the rule, full debate up in the Rules Committee. And we are going to start this process of repealing ObamaCare. It began with the rules votes here yesterday in the Rules Committee and here on the floor today. We have begun the long, hard slog of the repeal of ObamaCare.

It is, I believe, a new precedent to see the American people rise up this instantaneously to reject a piece of legislation that was passed. I recall when it was passed here November 7 out of the House, it went back to be worked through the—let me say worked through the procedures. I withdrew that “shenanigan” word and replaced it with the “procedures” in the United States Senate.

In an unprecedented fashion, they put that legislation together in the Senate. And on Christmas Eve morning, they circumvented the filibuster, and they pushed through on a reconciliation package, they called it, a piece of legislation that had to come through to marry up with the House legislation in order to, some say in the press, “buy the votes” to get barely enough to pass ObamaCare here in the House. Well, that legislation, their version of ObamaCare, passed in the Senate on Christmas Eve morning. Around 9 o’clock was when they opened the vote. They had a chance procedurally—the Republicans did—to delay
that vote until 9 o’clock Christmas Eve. I argued vociferously that they should use every procedural tool at their disposal to delay that vote to the maximum amount, and perhaps something would happen. Like what if a blizzard would come along and shut this thing down? What then? Why wouldn’t have been able to put the votes together? Look how close that came, if you look back upon it.

But in any case, when ObamaCare passed the Senate, I asked a question to one of the Senate Republicans there who opposed ObamaCare, and did so well: What do we do now? What’s our next step? We had 9 more hours we could have fought, or 12 more hours we could have fought. We didn’t fight all 12 of those hours. What do we do next? His answer was, Well, we pray, and we pray for a victory in the special election in the Senate race in Massachusetts.

Well, at that time, a lot of people in America didn’t know the name Scott Brown, and I thought that that was a pretty big reach, to think we were going to put our stakes in saving America’s liberty in a special election U.S. Senate race in Massachusetts. Massachusetts full, at the highest 100 percent congressional delegation of all Democrats, the strongest Democrat State in the Nation that I know of. So I thought it was a bit of a presuppositional thing to talk about asking the Lord to intervene in Massachusetts, which was the message that I got. But I took a look and I decided, that’s our best chance. I ended up going to Massachusetts, and I spent 3 days there.

On January 19, Scott Brown was elected to fill what’s commonly known as “the Kennedy seat” in the United States Senate, from Massachusetts. He had pledged to vote “no” and kill ObamaCare. That made it the veto-proof Republican minority in the Senate. And I was gong on about on that night that ObamaCare was dead, and that was January 19 last year.

Well, subsequent to that, the President held a health care summit at the Blair House February 25. That’s where he identified his health care plan as “ObamaCare.” And in that health care summit, there were certain selected Republicans who were invited to sit with the Democrats around this big table. And there were rules. Of course the reasoning was, to defuse everyone differences. The President interrupted Republicans 72 times. Somehow he got his mojo back. Somehow they put together this legal maneuvering to be able to bring legislation here and say they got it—and actually, they got it passed. I’m not taking that issue.

The then-chair of the Rules Committee wanted to just deem ObamaCare passed because they didn’t want to take a vote on it. They couldn’t get the votes out of their own conference because there were anonymous individuals in a list called the Stupak Dozen that would not vote for a bill that would use Federal funding for abortion. So they sat with their coalition. The President of the United States promised to sign an Executive order that they seemed to think would amend legislation after it passed the House. And even that wasn’t enough. They had to have the reconciliation package out of the Senate and married up with and effectively amend some of the ObamaCare legislation itself.

So, Mr. Speaker, the convolution of all of this, it was a legislative circus of every legislative shenanigan that I can think of. You put them all in such a way that they finally got stuff to the President’s desk signed in the proper sequence and order so that the attorneys and the constitutional scholars could look at that and say, Well, actually there is a piece of legislation that somebody’s going to have to follow the direction of.

So we had a Presidential Executive order that was designed to amend legislation passed by the people’s House and the United States Senate that was promised before the legislation was presented to the floor as a condition of its passage here so they could get the votes from the Stupak Dozen and others. And there was a reconciliation package from the Senate that amended the legislation. They passed it out of the Senate before the legislation was brought before the House. When do you ever bring legislation that is designed to amend legislation that’s not yet passed? You only do that if you don’t have the support of the majority of the people in either body.

And I will tell you this, Mr. Speaker: On the day ObamaCare passed, as stand-alone legislation, that big 2,500-page package, if there are no extraneous issues, like promises of Executive orders from the President or a reconciliation package in the Senate that amends it, if it was ObamaCare stand-alone, 2,500 pages dropped here in the House of Representatives for an up-or-down vote. And here, any student of what was here knows, Mr. Speaker, they did not have the majority votes to pass ObamaCare.

It was done on the condition that the President would sign an executive order and the Senate reconciliation package would be brought in the form that they demanded it.

So, we watch all this process and we think it’s making sausage. You don’t want to eat the sausage when you watch them make it. I’m happy to eat the sausage when they make it. I really don’t want to eat this one. The American people did not want to eat this one either. The American people rejected it. The American people brought their voice and their effort.

And I went home that night, the last one to leave this Capitol. And I told myself I will lay down, and I’m going to sleep with them sleeping. I woke up, and I’ll wake up fresh in the morning, and I’ll retool, and I’ll start a new plan and see what I can do to save America, see what I can do to save what’s left of America, because our liberty had been ripped out. Our Constitution had been violated. And I knew the bill was going to be signed eagerly by President Obama, which he did on March 30.

So I laid down and decided that 2 ½ hours was at the floor of the deep of the exhausted. And I woke up. I sat down at my computer and I wrote up a request for a bill to repeal ObamaCare. That bill draft request went in at the opening of business that following morning. It was not on the floor to be voted on the next day, my staff was. And that request turned into a draft within a couple of hours, and got back into my hand, 40 words, 40 words. And those 40 words are included in this repeal that is coming, that is now before this House that will be debated on Wednesday of next week. I introduced those 40 words into the legislation and ironically, coincidentally and perhaps providentially, Michelle Bachmann of Minnesota was there the same thing and introduced the same thing and put in a bill draft request almost simultaneously, and our bills came down within 3 minutes of each other, exactly the same 40 words that said the same thing: pull ObamaCare out by July 4th. That is not the quote; that’s the summary, Mr. Speaker. And, actually, I’m not going to summarize the bill this time. We don’t have 2,500 pages in this repeal, but I would just say a few more words about that.

We started then the repeal process within hours of the passage of ObamaCare and it being messaged to the President within hours. And people said, well, that’s just throwing a tantrum. You’re just frustrated. You’ve lost. Why can’t you just pack up your things and move on? We’ve got to move on. Put that behind us. That debate’s over with.

Well, the debate’s not over with when a Congress defies the will of the American people. And this Congress, the 111th Congress, the one just passed, defied the will of the American people. And the result was 87 new freshmen Republicans courageous, bold, principled, constitutional conservatives, young, vigorous, with ideology, driven people, statesmen and women in the group that will emerge as national leaders. I believe there’s a Speaker in that class. I know there are committee chairs in that class. There’s a reasonable chance that there’s a President of the United States in this class that was elected in 2010. There may be more than one. We have leaders there. They came to this Congress to repeal ObamaCare. And the filing of the repeal of ObamaCare on that late March day, that early morning of the late March day, started the process. The start of that process began within hours of the passage of ObamaCare and well before its actual signing into law. It was introduced before the President actually signed it into law to repeal it.

And Michelle Bachmann and I and Connie Mack and, let me see, Parker
Griffith. They come to mind as people that have introduced legislation to repeal, and we worked that together with many others. There wasn’t hesitation. Republicans wanted to sign on to the repeal, and they did so quickly. And over a period of time, the numbers of signatures accumulated to about 86, and 86 were ready to sign for repeal.

Then we decided, let’s turn this into a discharge petition. Nancy Pelosi won’t let this come forward until it does. And I filed the discharge petition here on the floor, Mr. Speaker, and Members began to go down and sign the discharge petition. And the numbers of signatures went up on the discharge petition, when they said it was impossible to repeal ObamaCare, all the way up to 173; and it became bipartisan with the signature of Gene Taylor, whom I believe, would have been re-elected to this Congress had he not voted for Nancy Pelosi. He did lose his election. And he served this Congress.

But the result of this is that the existence of the bill to repeal ObamaCare in the last Congress was inspiring to new candidates that ran for office. It was inspiring to their supporters. It was for their constituents and their voters. And the discharge petition, with 173 signatures said, Republicans have the resolve to repeal ObamaCare. Republicans have the resolve.

And so the inspiration and the resolve, along with a fairly long list of anti-free market, anti-freedom things that have introduced legislation to repeal ObamaCare now, they are repealed long back when people said it’s just a frustrating, political exercise. You will never repeal ObamaCare. You can’t get a vote on ObamaCare, so why are you going through the motions? It’s just a legislative tantrum. No, it’s not. It’s tangible. It’s not a tantrum. It’s tangible. It’s here. It’s here before us now.

Here’s the second component of it. This is the reconciliation package that couldn’t be addressed on the day it passed, because the article of the House read: “Executive action as of the enactment of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010,” the Senate Reconciliation Act, “Public Law 111-152, title I and subtitle B of title II of such act are repealed, and the provisions of law amended by such title or subtitle, respectively, are restored or revived as if such title and subtitle had not been enacted.”

Once again, the repetition of that language, for the two major components of ObamaCare now, they are repealed, and the provisions of law amended by such title or subtitle, respectively, are restored or revived as if such title and subtitle had not been enacted.”

Well, isn’t that refreshing. Mr. Speaker, that we have a piece of legislation here that’s not 2,500 pages. It’s not so long and complicated that we can’t read it here on the floor. It’s not so complicated that anybody that might be sitting in the gallery or watching on C-SPAN or might be reading through the Congressional Record can understand what is going on here. This is in the full light of day with the support of the American people.

Sixty percent of the American people, according to a Rasmussen poll here some time ago, supported effective repeal of ObamaCare, as do I. And, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the debate on Wednesday. I look forward to the vote going up on the board on Wednesday. I look forward to the beginning of the repeal of ObamaCare.

The press has asked me a question on that earlier today: If you pass the repeal of ObamaCare—we will pass the repeal of ObamaCare—is that the end? No. To reflect back on Winston Churchill, it’s not the end. It’s not even the beginning of the end of ObamaCare, but it is perhaps the end of the beginning of the end of ObamaCare. That’s what I believe is coming.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas bring up Churchill when he said, “sweat, blood, and tears.” There are some people out there that bring some quotes to mind that stand out for me, and one of them is the Congressman from Indiana, Mike Pence. His statement on our persistence and due diligence in bringing about ObamaCare is this—and I wrote it down because it impressed me, not the words but the manner in which he says it. It is always superior to my delivery. But it is this, Mr. Speaker. Congressman Pence of Indiana said, if House Republicans got the message from the American people last November, “we won’t just vote once to repeal ObamaCare; we will vote to repeal ObamaCare again and again until we complete the government takeover of health care to the ash heap of history—where it belongs.”

Nice quote, Mike Pence. It sounds like Ronald Reagan to me. We will vote . . . again and again until we complete the government takeover of health care to the ash heap of history—where it belongs.”

I intend to stay with this with an even heightened level of persistence, Mr. Speaker, to bring about the final and complete repeal of ObamaCare. Mr. Speaker, to be able to one day watch as the President of the United States, the next President probably, puts an end to ObamaCare. It will take persistence on our part. It will take determination. We will pass this out of the House. We can pass it again and again, send it over to the Senate where Harry Reid gets a hot potato on his lap that gets hotter and bigger each time.

We have appropriations bills coming through here. We have a CR that ends March 4th, and everything that funds our government, we should put into that language that prohibits any of the dollars from being used to implement or enforce ObamaCare. We can shut off all of the implementation of ObamaCare. If this House stands resolute and determined, there is not a dime that can be spent by the Federal Government without our approval. So we can shut off the funding that implements and enforcement of ObamaCare, and we must. And we must stick with it.

We must stick with it with the determination that comes from people like Mike Pence, with the tone that comes from Ronald Reagan that comes from his mouth, and I think the determination that comes from Winston Churchill. We will fight on this. We will fight until the end. We have the majority to start with now in the House. We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end. We shall fight with growing confidence and growing power for the cost may be. We shall never surrender. We will carry on this struggle until, in God’s good time, with all His
power and might. He steps forth to the rescue and liberation of our God-given American liberty. That’s what will happen in this Congress.

The day will come, Mr. Speaker, that the next President of the United States, I pray, stands on the west portico of the Capitol here in this building down that hallway and off to the left to take the oath of office. And when the Chief Justice steps forward and he takes his oath on the Bible, I want to see that next President of the United States take that pen in hand, Mr. Speaker, and I want him to take the oath, “preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, so help me God.” And before he even shakes the hand of the Chief Justice to be congratulated as the next President of the United States, I want that pen in that hand to come down on the podium and sign into law the final repeal of ObamaCare as the first act of office of the next President of the United States, and I will support the man or woman that’s willing to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your attention and the honor to address you.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o’clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

☐ 1342

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) at 1 o’clock and 42 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. JONES (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of attending his grandmother’s funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

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

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, January 11 and 12.

Mr. BARTH, for 5 minutes, January 11 and 12.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, January 11 and 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o’clock and 43 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

41. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Tobacco Transition Payment Program — Tobacco Transition Adjustments (RIN: 0560-AH56) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

42. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations Division, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Conforming Changes to Applicant Submission Requirements; Implementing Federal Financial Report and Contract Contractor Requirements (RIN: 8313-AE21) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

43. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Corporate Credit Unions, Technical Corrections (RIN: 3133-AD56) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

44. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Credit Corporation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Temporary Rule Regarding Principal Trades with Certain Adversary Clients (RIN: 9215-AJ96) received December 29, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

45. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Temporary Rule Regarding Principal Trades with Certain Adversary Clients (RIN: 3225-AJ17) received December 29, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

46. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Credit Corporation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendments to Form ADV; Extension of Compliance Date (RIN: 3225-AJ17) received December 29, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

47. A letter from the Deputy Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendments to General Regulations of the Food and Drug Administration (RIN: 0910-AG56) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

50. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States: Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Emergency Rule Extension, Pollution Control National Rarities (Docket No.: 1004719-12-03-01) (RIN: 0848-AW86) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

51. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Governing Book-Entry Treasury Bonds, Notes and Bills Held in Legacy Treasury Direct and Regulations Governing Securities Held in Treasury Direct received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

52. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s final rule — Nuclear Decommissioning Funds (TD 9512) (RIN: 1545-BP06) received December 23, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

53. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Amendments to Regulations Regarding Withdrawal of Applications and Voluntary Suspension of Claims (Docket No.: SSA-2009-0673) (RIN: 0960-AD07) received January 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COLE, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FLEMINO, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FOXX, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. GINNEY OF GEORGIA, Mr. GOHMET, Mr. JONES, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KINSTON, Mr. KLING, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LATTA, Mr. MANZURO, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCKINNEY, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PUCEK, Mr. NUEBRAUER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. TERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HERGER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. RECON, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. ADEHOLT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. LONG, Mr. PEACKE, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. BLUKE, Mr. HULESKAMP, Mr. LUSTKEMEYER, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 212. A bill to provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. MYCK, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana):

H.R. 213. A bill to establish a moratorium on regulatory rulemaking actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:
H. R. 214. A bill to establish a Congressional Office of Regulatory Analysis, to require the periodic review and automatic termination of Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:
H. R. 215. A bill to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and title I of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 while preserving the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 2010 while preserving the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Ways and Means, House Administration, Rules, the Judiciary, and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:
H. R. 216. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue a rule with respect to border security searches of electronic devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.
By Mr. PENCE (for himself, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mrs. McMorris Rodgers, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. Roe of Tennessee, Mr. STUTTMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. JONES, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. MCCINTOCK, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. Akin, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. TURNER, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. PERRY of California, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. PAUL, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POR OF Texas, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BRAUN OF Texas, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Mr. ABERDEIN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. ROHRER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. FLAKE, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HERGER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CONEY of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. CASE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. THOMPSON OF Pennsylvania, Mr. ROSS OF New York, Mr. REPROST, Mr. BUCSCONE, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. COLE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. McHENRY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROGELL, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. McCaul, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GOSEAR, Mr. CRAVACK, Mr. WALSH of Massachusetts, Mr. COHEN of New York, Mr. PEACOCK OF Alabama, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. LONG, Mr. KLINE, Mr. PRICE OF Georgia, Mr. Luetkemeyer, Mr. COFFMAN OF Colorado, Mr. YOUNG OF Indiana, Ms. BURKLE, Mr. HALL, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. HURLSKAMP, Mr. WIST, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. MILLER of Missouri, Mr. BRATTON of South Carolina, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. QUAYLE, Mr. DUNCAN OF Texas, Mr. GRAVES OF Georgia, Mr. CALVERST, Mr. HUIZENGA OF Michigan, Mr. GINGRICH OF Georgia, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. FOSEY, Mr. KEMP, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. HARPER, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SHIMkus, Mr. Gohmert, Mr. Walberg, Mr. Mica, Mr. Renacci, Mr. Lamborn, Mr. Carter, Mr. Culberson, Mr. Rokita, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. LANSFORD):
H. R. 217. A bill to amend title X of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit family planning grants from being awarded to any entity that performs abortions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
By Mr. BACA:
H. R. 218. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for naturalization for certain high school graduates; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
By Mr. BACA:
H. R. 219. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to ensure the integrity of the Social Security trust funds by requiring the Managing Trustees to invest the annual surplus of such trust funds in marketable interest-bearing obligations of the United States and certificates of deposit in depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and to protect such trust funds from the public debt limit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.
By Mr. BRAY:
H. R. 220. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect the integrity and confidentiality of individuals covered under such title, to prohibit the establishment in the Federal Government of any uniform national identifying number, Social Security number or Social Security numbers, and to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing standards for identification of individuals on other agencies or persons; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 221. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for displaying nooses in public with intent to harass or intimidate a person because of that person's race, color, religion, or national origin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 222. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that all hospitals reimbursed under the Medicare system to establish and implement security procedures to reduce the likelihood of infant patient abduction and baby switching, including procedures for identifying all infant patients in the hospital in a manner that ensures that it will be evident if infants are missing from the hospital; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 223. A bill to make available the Social Security trust funds in investment vehicles to the Managing Trustee to invest the annual surplus of such trust funds to hold the Social Security surplus, to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 224. A bill to strengthen the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 1991 and to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 225. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for the discontinuation and baby switching, including procedures for identifying all infant patients in the hospital in a manner that ensures that it will be evident if infants are missing from the hospital; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 226. A bill to strengthen the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 1991 and to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 227. A bill to prevent children's access to firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 228. A bill to provide for the collection of data on traffic stops, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 229. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish national standards for safety inspection of commercial vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 230. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to make loan guarantees for cellulosic ethanol production facilities and for research and development; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 231. A bill to increase the evidentiary standard required to convict a person for a drug offense, to require screening of law enforcement officers or others acting under color of law participating in drug task forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 232. A bill to recognize the extraordinary performance of the Armed Forces in and preceding the military of the United States in Iraq, to terminate the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243), to repeal the continuing resolution to continue deployment of the Armed Forces to Iraq, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 233. A bill to reform the provisions relating to one-strike eviction from public and federally assisted housing; to the Committee on Financial Services.
By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. CARTER, and Mr. MANZULLO):
H. R. 234. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus, to prohibit Federal agencies from imposing Federal regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, on Education and the Workforce, and on the Judiciary.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 235. A bill to enhance Federal enforcement of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 236. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to enhance the Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus, to require screening of loan guarantee amounts held in the Account until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Fund in investment vehicles approved by the Federal Reserve System, to provide for suspension of amounts held in the Account until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Fund in investment vehicles approved by the Federal Reserve System, and to establish a Social Security Investment Commission to make recommendations.
for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security surplus in the Trust Fund; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas: H.R. 240. A bill to reduce unsustainable spending; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Natural Resources, and Oversight and Government Reform, House Administration, Education and the Workforce, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, Armed Services, Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCHANAN: H.R. 226. A bill to provide that rates of pay for Members of Congress shall not be adjusted under section 601(a)(2) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 in the year following any fiscal year in which outlays of the United States exceeded receipts of the United States; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia: H.R. 237. A bill to amend the Homeowners Assistance Program of the Department of Defense and the Secretary of Defense, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EMERSON: H.R. 236. A bill to provide for alternative forms of investment of the Government Security Vault Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LATTA: H.R. 241. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to modify the penalty for false marking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LATTA: H.R. 242. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the Energy Policy Act of 1990, the Energy Policy Act of 1982, and the Department of Energy Organization Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 251. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to enter into a portion of the Real Estate Mortgage Insurance Fund for public housing; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. EMERSON: H.R. 252. A bill to require an annual report on the efforts to prevent sludge from being applied inappropriately on farmland; to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 253. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish a system of financial institutions for Members of Congress; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 254. A bill to amend the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the egg, meat, and poultry inspection laws to ensure that consumers receive notification regarding food products produced from crops, livestock, or poultry raised on land on which sewage sludge was applied; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 255. A bill to lift the trade embargo on Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 256. A bill to waive certain prohibitions with respect to nations of Cuba concerning imports of domestically produced professional baseball; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 257. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate income tax overpayments as contributions to the United States Library Trust Fund; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN: H.R. 258. A bill to require the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a cross-cut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, to require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a long-term management plan, and for other purposes; to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BROWN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GINGRICH of Georgia, Mr. JONES of New York, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCLINTOCK, Mr. LONG, Mr. GHIBBS, Mr. ROYBAL-CASTRO of Texas, Mr. WINTER of Ohio, and Mr. WINTER of New Hampshire): H.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to prohibit the use of clean-fuel and fuel efficient vehicles designated as nonattainment areas under the Clean Air Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Ms. SUTTON): H.R. 259. A bill to require the Speaker of the House of Representatives to provide the public with information regarding funds received from United States agencies and organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 260. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Oak Point and North Brother Island in the Bronx in the State of New York as a unit of the National Park System; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SERRANO: H.R. 261. A bill to provide for alternative forms of investment of the Government Security Vault Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GINGRICH of Georgia, Mr. JONES of New York, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCLINTOCK, Mr. LONG, Mr. GHIBBS, Mr. ROYBAL-CASTRO of Texas, Mr. WINTER of Ohio, and Mr. WINTER of New Hampshire): H.J. Res. 11. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to balance the Federal budget, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas: H.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, “honor” killings, acid burnings, dowry deaths, and other gender-based persecutions, expressing the sense of Congress that participation, protection, recognition, and equality of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral and peaceful society, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. EMERSON: H.J. Res. 13. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States giving Congress power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.
the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. EMERSON:
H. J. Res. 14. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for a balanced budget for the United States Government and for greater accountability in the enactment of tax legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PLATTS:
H. J. Res. 15. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to authorize the line item veto; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING of Iowa (for himself and Mr. SUNDBERG):
H. J. Res. 16. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the sixteenth article of amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H. J. Res. 17. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the twenty-second article of amendment, thereby removing the limitation on the number of terms an individual may serve as President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TERRY:
H. Res. 18. A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. EMERSON:
H. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the need to prevent the closure or consolidation of post offices; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SERRANO:

By Mr. DREIER:
H. Res. 27. A resolution relating to the status of certain actions taken by Members-elect; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. Res. 28. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Transportation Security Administration should, in accordance with existing law, enhance security from terrorist attack and other security threats to our Nation's rail and mass transit systems and other modes of surface transportation; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:
H. Res. 29. A resolution calling for Internet freedom in Vietnam; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DIETCH:
H. Res. 30. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require that plain English section by section analysis be posted on the Internet for bills and joint resolutions reported by committees; to the Committee on Rules.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,
Mr. KING of New York introduced a bill (H.R. 216) entitled the "English Plus Resolution"; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representa-
tives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BROU of Georgia:
H. R. 212. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section five of the 14th article of Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which states "The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article."

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:
H. R. 213. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:
H. R. 214. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:
H. R. 215. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:
H. R. 216. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. HACA:
H. R. 218. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4.

By Mr. PAUL:
H. R. 219. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority for the Social Security Protection Act is constitutional because it protects the American people's rights to be free from federal violations of their privacy as protected by the fourth and ninth amendments to the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PAUL:
H. R. 220. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Identity Theft Prevention Act is constitutional because it protects the American people's rights to be free from federal violations of their privacy as protected by the fourth and ninth amendments to the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 221. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 222. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 223. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 224. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 225. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 226. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 227. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 228. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 229. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 230. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 231. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the Power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 12.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas:
H. R. 232. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the Power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:
H. R. 234. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:
H. R. 235. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill in enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 14.
Clause 7 of Section 9 of Article I of the Constitution, and Clause 2 of Section 3 of Article IV of the Constitution.

By Mr. LATTA:
H.R. 243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the Constitution, the Congress shall have power to establish an uniform scale of duties on articles imported into the United States, or in any department or office thereof, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

Specifically, this bill amends the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 to expand access to Department of Defense (DOD) homeowners assistance for qualified members of the Armed Forces permanently reassigned during a designated mortgage crisis to allow the Secretary of Defense greater flexibility regarding the dates of the availability of such assistance.

By Mrs. EMERSON:
H.R. 239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Mr. FILNER:
H.R. 240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:
H.R. 247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14, which gives Congress the power "To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces." In addition, Congress has the power to make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 252.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution, which states that "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 254.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution—
The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

In addition, Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution—

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 255.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, which gives Congress the power "To regulate Commerce among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."
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with foreign Nations,’’ and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power “To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.”

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 257.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power “To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.”

By Mr. PLATT:
H.J. Res. 15.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V—The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to the Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made by one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourthClauses in the Ninth Section of the First Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:
H.J. Res. 16.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This joint resolution is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress to propose amendments to the Constitution under Article V of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.J. Res. 3.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This proposed constitutional amendment is introduced pursuant to Article V of the Constitution. In Whitehill v. Elkins (1967), the Supreme Court’s majority opinion stated that “there is no restraint on the kind of constitutional amendments which may be offered,” under Article V of the Constitution. In addition, this proposed constitutional amendment is introduced in relation to the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, which this joint resolution seeks to repeal.

By Mr. TERRY:
H.J. Res. 18.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article Five of the Constitution—The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made by one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourthClauses in the Ninth Section of the First Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors of the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the House of Representatives in H.R. 27 seek to repeal.

By Mr. HUNTER and Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 38.

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 2 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY Mr. CAMP

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 2 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY Mr. UPTON

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 2 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
Honoring Harrell Fletcher

Hon. Lois Capps
Of California

In the House of Representatives

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of an exemplary citizen of California’s Central Coast: Mr. Harrell Fletcher.

Mr. Fletcher lived in the Santa Maria Valley for 80 years, moving to the area from Arkansas as a young boy. He attended San Luis Obispo High School and California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo. He moved to Santa Maria with the architecture firm responsible for building Camp Cook, now Vandenberg Air Force Base, in the early 1940’s.

Over his decades in the Santa Maria Valley, he seemed to fill every role in the community at one time or another: local business owner, County Supervisor, school board member, founding member of the Los Padres National Bank, Fair board member and Coastal Commission member. He was the most senior land use consultant in the region and was the longest serving member of the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fletcher also served on literally dozens of other groups, organizations and committees over the years, with each organization benefiting from his strong work ethic and unique insight into our community.

Mr. Fletcher and his wife Betty have been acknowledged frequently for their pivotal role in the growth of Santa Maria Valley community. In March 2004, the City of Santa Maria, in honor of Harrell and Betty Fletcher, dedicated “Fletcher Park” on their behalf. In 2009, the City Council declared July 24, 2009 as “Harrell Fletcher Day.”

On a personal note, Mr. Fletcher always extended a gracious hand when working with both me and my late husband U.S. Rep. Walter Capps on a range of issues. We may have been of different political parties but that did not matter to Mr. Fletcher. He was always generous and affable, and always interested in addressing the issues to make life better for Santa Marians. Like my late husband, I considered it an distinct honor and privilege to work with someone so dedicated to his community, and who influenced so much of its growth for so many years.

Harrell Fletcher is survived by his wonderful wife of almost 60 years, Betty, and their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. I thank them for sharing Harrell and his many talents with us these many years and offer my deepest condolences on their loss.

Congratulatory Remarks for the University of Central Florida

Hon. Sandy Adams
Of Florida

In the House of Representatives

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the University of Central Florida on their historic victory over the Georgia Bulldogs on December 31, 2010 in the Liberty Bowl. The Knights edged out the Bulldogs 10-6 in a fantastic game that demonstrated what this young athletic program has to offer to the world of collegiate sports.

This was UCF’s first bowl game victory capping off an astonishing year of being ranked for the first time in school history in the top 25 of the AP Poll, USA Today Coaches Poll, Harris Poll and finishing their season at number 25 in the BCS Standings. These achievements are a testament to the determination and strength of the young people that this university is turning out as the future leaders in our community and country.

As the second largest university in the Nation, and my district’s flagship university, UCF has been breaking barriers and earning its place at the top of every measure of student achievement, and this year was no exception. I offer my warmest congratulations to the players of this championship team, Coach O’Leary and the entire Administrative staff for all their determination and hard work.

In Honor of the Reverend Norman Eddy and the Late Reverend Margaret Eddy For Their Decades of Dedicated and Faithful Service to the East Harlem Community

Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney
Of New York

In the House of Representatives

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Reverend Norman Eddy and his late wife, the Reverend Margaret Eddy. Norman and Margaret Eddy devoted themselves to the Manhattan community of East Harlem, one of the most underserved and impoverished communities in our Nation. Graduates of the Union Theological Seminary, they went on to minister to congregations at the East Harlem Protestant Parish and The Church of the Resurrection, helping countless individuals and families better their lives.

At the end of February, the decades of service to others by Norman and Margaret Eddy were recognized at twin celebrations held at the New York Theological Seminary and at The Church of the Resurrection. Celebrants learned about the effort to launch a Program Center for Spiritual Coordination and Community Well-Being at the New York Theological Seminary, viewed the premiere showing of a film about their East Harlem ministries directed by the award-winning producer/director Jan Al bert, shared heart-warming and sometime light-hearted reminiscences about Norman and Margaret, and celebrated Norm’s 90th Birthday over a communal meal at the Church.

The celebrations are richly deserved, because the devotion of Norman and Margaret Eddy to the well-being of East Harlem residents is truly remarkable. I came to know them during the nine years I served as the New York City Council Member representing a district that included all of East Harlem. As ministers of the East Harlem Protestant Parish on East 100th Street and later of The Church of the Resurrection on East 105st Street, they were involved in a myriad of community organizations that formed a vital network in “El Barrio.” These included but were not limited to the East Harlem School of Faith, East Harlem Healing Community, the East Harlem Churches, the Community Urban Center, and East Harlem School of Faith, and East Harlem Interfaith. They also led a local neighborhood committee to help those who became addicted to narcotics. Each was an open, friendly, and vital presence who readily warmed to others and infected others with their laughter and positive spirits. When Norman and Peg Eddy ministered to others in need, no matter how dire their circumstances, they always maintained a sense of joy and optimism that proved infectious. With courage and compassion, they reached out to those suffering from HIV and AIDS at a time when misinformation and a lack of public awareness created an impenetrable stigma around those infected with the virus.

In recognition of their outstanding contributions to the well-being of the people they served and their extraordinary the civic life of our Nation’s greatest city, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the Reverends Norman and Margaret Eddy.

Rules of the House

SPEECH OF

Hon. Corrine Brown
Of Florida

In the House of Representatives

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to comment on clause 7 of House Rule XII, which requires that Members submit a statement citing the constitutional authority for any bill introduced in the House of Representatives. Every member of this body takes an oath to support and defend the Constitution. Any member of this body undertakes. It does, however, add to the costs of government. Publishing each statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD will cost the taxpayers an estimated $570,000 each year for supplies, labor and delivery.

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Furthermore, this requirement is a solution in search of a problem. According to the Congressional Research Service, only about two hundred and twenty acts of Congress have been held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court since 1789. In the past ten years, the Court has struck down laws a mere seventeen times. The number of acts courts have upheld is surely in the thousands. So I ask, what is the Constitutional crisis this requirement addresses?

The rule itself demonstrates the lack of urgency here. It requires a perfunctory statement without explanation. Committees need not consider the statement, no Member will ever vote on it, and Senate bills can be considered without one. By omitting any teeth, the rule clearly indicates that Members are already capable of ensuring that bills comply with the Constitution. In the rare instance we go too far, the courts are perfectly capable of correcting us.

Sometimes, the Constitution itself must be corrected. For example, the original Constitution explicitly allowed for slavery and counted slaves as three-fifths of a person. Certainly, I would not be here to make this statement if no one had challenged those provisions. Without the Fourteenth Amendment, the Constitution would not guarantee the rights to due process and equal protection that are now fundamental principles throughout American life. For over one hundred years, until 1920, it failed to ensure that women had a right to vote. Imagine a country in which only white, land-owning men could vote—that is the world we would live in if we were bound by the words of the Constitution as written.

Finally, while we respect the Constitution's limits on governmental action, we must remember that the framers purposely created a living document and intended it to grow and change with the country. The Constitution is a living document and intended it to grow and change with the country.

The Constitution as written.
When a regime loses respect for its own people, its days are numbered.

As he has done with thousands of other Iranian freedom fighters, Ahmadinejad came after Mr. Abbasi. So Mr. Abassì fled to Sweden. But when he did, Iranian authorities started ed going after his family still in Iran. So they fled then but could only get to Iran before being imprisoned by Iraqi authorities for not having their immigration papers. Now the Iraqi government wants to deport his daughter, Iman Abbasi, back to Iran, which is all but a death sentence for her. I talked to the State Department about Iman today and they are working on making sure that Iman is allowed to remain in Iraq until they can sort out her refugee status.

We have seen enough of Iraqi authorities doing favors for its neighbor to the East. At Camp Ashraf, a camp in the middle of the Iraqi desert full of freedom fighters from Iran, Iraqis and their Iranian buddies psychologically torture the residents. They put up dozens of loudspeakers surrounding the camp and shout at residents around the clock, telling them to go home to their motherland and stop being traitors.

We must send a clear message to Iraq: as long as it is ruled by the tiny tyrant and his henchmen, Iran is not a friend you can trust. If you side with them, then you side with oppression, tyranny. So stop imprisoning political refugees and stand up for the freedom that so many of our countrymen and yours have given their lives for.

RECOGNIZING THE ACTIVISM OF MS. YOLANDA DE VENANZI IN RAISING HIV/AIDS AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Yolanda De Venanzi and her efforts to raise HIV/AIDS awareness and education within the Hispanic community in South Florida.

Yolanda De Venanzi is an outreach worker with the Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County, working within the Hispanic community to help promote HIV/AIDS awareness, testing, and prevention. Among her many activities, she organizes discussion groups and distributes literature throughout the County. Her efforts indeed reach far and wide, including barbershops, the El Sol migrant labor center in Jupiter, and the Caridad Center in Boynton Beach, which provides health services to Hispanic farm workers.

Furthermore, Yolanda also trains volunteers to spread information about HIV/AIDS prevention. One of her ideas that has proven extremely successful is recruiting drivers who work for the Golden Cab Company to distribute packets containing condoms and brochures about the disease. As with all volunteers, they are trained to discuss and promote behavior that helps prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. This creative approach is truly a stroke of genius.

A native of Venezuela, Yolanda has had a varied career, working as a psychology teacher and a mental health counselor. This experience has no doubt benefitted her in her work with the Comprehensive AIDS Program. In addition, she still teaches online classes in stress reduction and coping for Empire State College.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. De Venanzi’s compassion, concern, devotion, and dedication are to be lauded. Moreover, her efforts represent the kind of community activism that is key to addressing the serious public health challenge that is HIV/AIDS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 8, I was unavoidably detained due to celebration of the Greek Orthodox Epiphany. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yes.”

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER PAPANICOLAOU
HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Mr. Papanicolaou, the distinguished President of the Cyprus Federation of America. Last month, Mr. Papanicolaou was being honored by the Asgata Association at its annual Dinner at Towers on the Green in Floral Park, New York.

Peter Papanicolaou was born and raised in Nicosia, Cyprus, where he received his primary and secondary education. Following two years of service with the National Guard of Cyprus, he came to the United States to pursue a higher education. He attended the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), enrolling in a special program for honors students. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Construction Engineering and Construction Management.

He launched his business career with a research position at NJIT, where he developed new technology for industrial sites and military bases for the cleanup of soils contaminated by toxins. He is now a principal of J.F. Contracting, a Brooklyn-based construction and engineering firm. He is professionally affiliated with the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and he is a member of the Civil Engineering Honor Society.

Pater Papanicolaou is the Supreme President of the Cyprus Federation of America, an umbrella organization for all Cypriot Americans. He is also president of the Archdiocesan Metropolitan Youth Choir, a member of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council, and a member of the Advisory Board of Queens College, the Saint Basil’s Academy, the Albert Dormoy College at NJIT, and the Harvard School of Public Health. So he is a member of the board of the Cyprus—U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Vice President of the Cyprus Children’s Fund.

Peter is widely recognized as a leader with significant civic and humanitarian achievements. In 1995 he was named Businessman of the Year, Borough of Bronx and in 1996 he was presented with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for his contributions to our national identity while preserving the distinct values and heritage of our ancestors. In 1998 he became an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, an honor conferred upon individuals for their services and dedication to the Greek Orthodox Church. He is a member of Leadership 100 and a founding member of the Faith Endowment of Orthodoxy. Peter was honored by various Greek American organizations, churches and professional associations.

Peter continues to serve tirelessly various causes of the Greek American community. He resides in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife Nasia. They have two daughters, Elizabeth and Elena.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise and join me in honoring Mr. Papanicolaou “Peter” Papanicolaou, a great New Yorker and a great American who has made outstanding contributions to the civic life of our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER PAPANICOLAOU
HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning, Thursday, January 6, 2011, I was unable to record my presence on the Floor of the House at the quorum call, rollcall No. 7, because I was unavoidably detained in a meeting related to my role on the House Armed Services Committee.

Tribute to Roberto Alomar

HON. ADAM SMITH
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest players in the history of baseball, Roberto Alomar. This week, Alomar was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, a recognition for the many years he played the sport at its very highest level.

To many, being a 12-time All-Star, a 10-time Gold Glove recipient and a four-time Silver Slugger and batting over .300 nine times would suffice, but for Roberto Alomar, these were simply milestones along his route to the Hall of Fame. Induction into the Hall of Fame is a time-honored tradition in America reserved only for the game changers. It is not merely that these men played the sport with superior skill, it is that they so often transformed the game and our conception of what is possible. Roberto Alomar revolutionized the position of second baseman. He combined offensive power and consistency with a range and fielding ability few had ever seen and few still have been able to emulate.

Roberto is part of a Puerto Rican baseball dynasty that deserves recognition, too. His father and brother, Sandy Alomar and Sandy Alomar Jr. had distinguished careers in Major
League Baseball. They must realize that their guidance and support helped guide Roberto to his great career and that they, too, deserve recognition as he is inducted into baseball’s most elite and hallowed club.

I am sure that the joy of winning the World Series was quite indescribable for Roberto, but the thrill of being inducted into the Hall of Fame must be just as sweet. It is a fitting end to a great career. Along with the rest of the baseball world and millions of Puerto Ricans on the island and in the 50 states, I applaud Roberto Alomar and look forward to seeing his plaque placed among baseball’s other legends.

Mr. Speaker, induction into the Hall of Fame is more than the highest honor a player can receive—it is how fans and lovers of organized baseball are able to say ‘thank you’ to their heroes. Thank you, Roberto, for so many wonderful memories. Thank you for pushing the sport to new heights. Thank you for giving millions of people so many reasons to smile and celebrate and feel joy.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the reading of the American Constitution on the Floor of the House of Representatives. Our founding fathers spent nearly four months debating the original Constitution during the summer of 1787. They spent the following two and a half years securing the support of each of the thirteen original colonies. Since the constitutional convention in Philadelphia, the Constitution has been debated and successfully amended a total of 27 times. Today, we take an important step by recognizing this important history of debate and change.

When it was originally drafted, the American Constitution laid out a framework of government that reflected its best understanding of the world as it existed in 1787. That document included many important insights and compromises, but the drafters realized that the Constitution—and the great Nation it created—would only last if the Constitution could adapt and change to meet the challenges of the day. That is why the drafters included a mechanism in the Constitution for the very document they spent months crafting.

As we are all aware, the first exercise of this amendment mechanism concluded in December 1791 when our young Country ratified the Bill of Rights. Those ten amendments embody some of our most important protections from government power including the freedom of speech, protection from unreasonable searches and seizures, and the guarantee of due process.

During the 19th and 20th Centuries the American people amended the Constitution by adding to Congress’s express constitutional powers and ensuring Congress has all the tools necessary to address national problems and protect the rights of all Americans. Shortly after the U. S. Civil War, the Constitution was amended to abolish slavery, guarantee the equal protection of the law to all Americans, and guarantee the right to vote. With these amendments, “We the People” expanded the power to Congress to protect the promises of freedom and equality for all Americans.

I could go on, but my point is not to give a history of the Constitution but to explain how the Constitution has changed for the better. Without these changes, a Chinese-American woman, like me, would never be able to vote in this Country much less serve as a member of Congress. With these powers, Congress has not only been given great power by the American people, it has also been given great responsibility. That responsibility includes ensuring that all Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, creed, gender, gender identification, or sexual orientation, have the opportunity to pursue their own version of happiness.

I welcome this reading today as a symbol of the Constitution as a living document. Our understanding of the Constitution is changing and evolving just as the words of the Constitution have changed over time. If anything has remained constant, it is the principles espoused by that great document. Those principles ensure that we will have a representative government, “of the people, by the people, and for the people” so that this government will protect the core values of liberty, equality, and opportunity. I look forward to working with my friends across the aisle to ensure this Congress uses its broad powers to promote these values.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks

Thursday, January 6, 2011

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF REV. DR. NELSON “FUZZY” THOMPSON

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great pleasure of recognizing the remarkable achievements of Reverend Doctor Nelson "Fuzzy" Thompson. Rev. Thompson is a minister, community activist, humanitarian, and resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I proudly represent.

Rev. Thompson graduated from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, with a Bachelor of Science in Education, and received a Master of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry at St. Paul School of Theology.

"Fuzzy," as he is affectionately known, has represented the Fifth District of Missouri in an exemplary manner locally and nationally. In service to our community, Fuzzy was an original Board Member of Black Adoption Program and a member of the Executive Committee of the Kansas Children’s Service League, showing a commitment to our community’s youth. During my term as Mayor, he also served as member and chair of the Human Rights Commission. "Fuzzy" served as President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Greater Kansas City.


Reverend Thompson has also represented our nation on an international platform. At the request of Bishop Desmond Tutu, President Nelson Mandela, and the South African Council of Churches, he was one of 22 U.S. ministers that traveled to South Africa on a fact-finding educational exchange. Reverend Thompson traveled to South Africa a second time as an official observer for the first election held in South Africa granting the right to vote to all races. He called the experience humbling, as he watched people line up for blocks in order to exercise their right to vote for the first time. He was also one of three U.S. ministers to conduct Easter services for hostages being held in Tehran, Iran.

As well as a strong advocate for human rights around the globe, he is just as strong an advocate for civil rights and economic rights within our community. When South Africa was a nation run by apartheid, Fuzzy was an original Board Member of Black Adoption Program and a member of the Executive Committee of the Kansas Children’s Service League.

In addition to working enthusiastically in his church, Jean devotes the majority of her time to her family. Inevitably, she can be found with her daughter, her grandchildren, and her great grandson. Jean enjoys traveling, shopping, cooking, and socializing with friends and extended family.

For her commitment to her family, to her community, and to her Nation, it is my privilege to wish Jean Harper a very happy 90th birthday.

IN TRIBUTE TO QUEENSVIEW ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Queensview, a cooperative apartment complex in the borough of Queens in the district that I represent. Queensview celebrated its 60th anniversary last month.

Initially organized as the Joint Queensview Housing Enterprises Inc., under the Redevelopment Companies Law of New York State, Queensview was created as a model of middle-class housing. The co-op’s founders were a group of public-spirited New Yorkers, including Louis H. Pink, who was then president of the New York State Housing Board and State Superintendent of Insurance, and Gerard Swope, former president of General Electric and former chairman of the New York City Housing Authority.

Queensview’s first Board of Directors included Mr. Pink (who was President of Queensview), Mr. Swope (Chairman of the board of Queensview), and such prominent citizens as Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury; David Samoff, chairman of the board of RCA; Mary K. Simkovich, director emeritus of Greenwich House; Thomas J. Watson, vice-president of IBM; Howard S. Cullman, chairman of the New York Port Authority; Bernard Gimble, president of Gimble Brothers; Howard C. Shepard, president of National City Bank (now Citibank); the Very Reverend E. Roberts Moore, formerly of the New York City Housing Authority; Mrs. Yorke Allen of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council; Albert Lasker of Greater Kansas City.

For thirty-two years, Jean served as a diligent employee at Freedman’s Hospital as a Dietitian. While working at Freedman’s Hospital, Jean met the love of her life, James “Jimmy” Harper. The couple soon married and had one daughter, Barbara Jean. In 1954, Jean and Jimmy moved to Taylor Street where they currently reside. Jean is a proud member of Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church where she serves as a missionary and works actively in the Pastor’s Aide Club.

In addition to working enthusiastically in her church, Jean devotes the majority of her time to her family. Inevitably, she can be found with her daughter, her grandchildren, and her great grandson. Jean enjoys traveling, shopping, cooking, and socializing with friends and extended family.

For her commitment to her family, to her community, and to her Nation, it is my privilege to wish Jean Harper a very happy 90th birthday.
acres of land. The apartment buildings themselves occupy only 14% of the property, leaving the rest available as open space. There are two playgrounds (which are used by the entire community), large lawns and beautiful landscaping. Some of the land has been made available for on-site parking, an amenity that is a great convenience for residents. On-site facilities such as community rooms and club rooms that are used by a variety of local groups. As a mark of gratitude, the cooperators dedicated the community rooms in Buildings 7 and 14 to Queensview’s founders, Mr. Pink and Mr. Swope.

In 1987, Queensview paid off its initial mortgage. In 1989, Queensview reconstituted as a private corporation known as Queensview, Inc., but since it is a limited equity corporation, prices remain affordable. As a cooperative, Queensview is a self-governing organization, overseen by the Queensview Council. The Council consists of two representatives and an alternate elected by each building. Residents make decisions about management of the building, including the nature of the amenities, upkeep of the building, staffing and security. As a result of their diligence and conscientiousness, Queensview is impeccably maintained and is a wonderful place to live.

Queensview is a naturally-occurring retirement community (NORC), meaning that a significant number of residents are seniors. The NORC program, operated by Selfhelp Community Services, provides residents with a wide range of on-site services including health and wellness, case management, counseling, social, recreational, educational, home care, technology, transportation, community trips and volunteer opportunities.

Since 1951, the Queensview Nursery School & Kindergarten has provided day care and early education. Currently serving children aged 2.9–5, the Queensview Nursery School & Kindergarten gives parents peace of mind by providing a caring and nurturing environment for their children. Mr. Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the success of Queensview, a warm, welcoming and gracious community and a terrific place to live.

A TRIBUTE TO SUSAN PETERS,
CARMICHAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE’S 2011 PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Susan Peters, who on January 7, 2011, the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce honored as its 2011 Person of the Year. Susan Peters is currently serving her second term on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors representing the third district, which includes the community of Carmichael.

Susan was last elected in 2004, re-elected in 2008, and chosen by her colleagues to be chair in 2009. Susan also serves on a number of boards including the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, which she chaired in 2009, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, where she served as chair in 2005, the Sacramento Transportation Authority, where she served as chair in 2006.

Her career started in banking, leading her to serve as treasurer of McCuen Properties beside her late husband, Peter McCuen. Susan also served as Board Chair of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, where she was a forceful voice for business and private enterprise in the region. At the chamber, she worked to locate Bailey Field in West Sacramento and was the founding chair of the Chamber’s “Perspectives” program, an annual conference hosting national and world leaders discussing topical subjects.

In addition to her duties as a member of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Susan currently serves as Board Chair of the Leland Stanford Mansion Foundation which restored the historic home of California’s eighth governor.

Susan has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the Sacramento region in both the private and public sectors. She is a true public servant who is always accessible to her constituents. It has been my pleasure to know Susan Peters and more importantly, to call her my friend. I am pleased to congratulate her on being named the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce’s 2011 Person of the Year.

“EXPERTS LETTER ON DEFENSE SPENDING”

HON. BARNEY FRANK
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have been encouraged to see some signs that the mind set that would not only exclude the military budget from deficit reduction efforts but would in fact inflate an already excessive allocation has been weakening. Secretary Gates’ statement on Thursday, January 6, of a recognition of many to take the deficit into account in budgeting for the Pentagon is encouraging, although he does not go far enough. I think that there is no issue more important than to recognize that reducing the extent to which America engages in an extremely expensive worldwide subsidy for many of our wealthy allies in the area of defense has contributed significantly to our deficit, and it is clear that we can substantially reduce military spending without in any way reducing the security of the United States.

In November of last year, a wide-ranging group of people very knowledgeable about national security needs met. I am encouraged that the Commission recognized the importance of including military spending constraints, although I did not agree with their proposal to increase healthcare costs for retirees. And I believe that the thoughtful letter that they received from this wide-ranging coalition of experts on national security and military spending should be shared with our colleagues so I ask that it be printed here.

EXPERTS LETTER ON DEFENSE SPENDING TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND REFORM, NOVEMBER 18, 2010

DEAR CO-CHAIRMAN BOWLES AND CO-CHAIRMAN SIMPSON: We are writing to you as experts in national security and defense economics to convey our views on the national security implications of the Commission’s work and especially to advocate for achieving responsible reductions in military spending. In this regard, we appreciate the initiative you have taken in your 10 November 2010 draft proposal to the Commission. It begins a necessary process of serious reflection, debate, and action.

The vitality of our economy is the cornerstone of our nation’s strength. We share the Commission’s desire to bring our financial house into order. Doing so is not merely a question of economics. Reducing the national debt is also a national security imperative.

To date, the Obama administration has exempted the Defense Department from any budget reductions. Too bad. It makes it more difficult to accomplish the task of restoring our economic strength, which is the underpinning of our military power.

As the rest of the nation labors to reduce its debt burden, the current plan is to boost the base DOD budget by 10 percent in real terms over the next decade. The Pentagon is on top of the nearly 52 percent real increase in base military spending since 1986. (When war costs are included the increase has been much greater: 95 percent.) We appreciate Secretary Gates’ efforts to reform the Pentagon’s business and acquisition practices. However, even if his reforms fulfill their promise, the current plan does not translate them into budgetary savings that contribute to solving our deficit problem.

Their explicit aim is to free funds for other uses inside the Pentagon. This is not good enough.

Grants for defense spending is not at risk the entire deficit reduction effort. Defense spending today constitutes over 55 percent of discretionary spending and 23 percent of the federal budget. An exemption for defense not only undermines the broader call for fiscal responsibility, but also makes overall budget restraint much harder as a practical economic and political matter.

We need not put our economic power at risk in this way. Today the United States possesses a wide margin of global military superiority. The defense budget can bear significant real cuts without compromising our essential security.

We recognize that larger military adversaries may rise to face us in the future. But the best hedge against that possibility is vigilance and a vibrant economy supporting a military able to adapt to new challenges as they emerge.

We can achieve greater defense economy today in several ways, all of which we urge you to consider seriously. We need to be more realistic in the goals we set for our armed forces and more selective in our choices regarding their use abroad. We should focus our military on core security goals and on those current and emerging threats that most directly concern us.

We also need to be more judicious in our choice of security instruments when dealing
with international challenges. Our armed forces are a uniquely expensive asset and for some tasks no other instrument will do. For many challenges, however, the military is not the most cost-effective choice. We can achieve greater efficiency today without diminishing our security by better discriminating between vital, desirable, and unnecessary tasks and capabilities.

There is a variety of specific options that would produce savings, some of which we describe below. The important point, however, is a commitment to assessing Pentagon’s task list over the next 18 months to re-examine our current reliance on the Cold War, which sometimes is more expensive than our adversaries. The Pentagon’s task list now includes not only preventive war, regime change, and nation building, but also vague efforts to “shape the strategic environment” and stem the emergence of threats. It is time to prune some of these missions and reduce an emphasis on defense and deterrence.

U.S. forces and power dramatically exceeds that of any plausible combination of conventional adversaries. To cite just one example, Secretary Gates has observed that the U.S. Navy currently has as many aircraft as the next 11 navies combined, most of which are operated by our allies. We can safely save by trimming our current margin of superiority.

America’s permanent peacetime military presence abroad is largely a legacy of the Cold War. It can be reduced without undermining the essential security of the United States and its allies.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have revealed the limits of military power. Avoiding these types of operation globally would allow us to roll back the recent increase in the size of our Army and Marine Corps.

The Pentagon’s acquisition process has repeatedly failed, routinely delivering weapons and equipment late, over cost, and less capable than promised. Some of the most expensive systems correspond to threats that are least prominent today and unlikely to regain prominence soon. In these cases, savings can be safely realized by cancelling, delaying, or reducing procurement or by seeking less costly alternatives.

Recent efforts to reform Defense Department financial management and acquisition practices must be strengthened. We must make effective discipline to trim service redundancies and streamline command, support systems, and infrastructure.

Change will be hard because the lines are bound to be controversial. Budget reductions are never easy—no less for defense than in any area of government. However, fiscal realities call on us to strike a new balance between investing in military power and attending to the fundamentals of national strength on which our true power rests. We can achieve safe savings in defense by rethinking how we produce military power and how, why, and where we put it to use.

Sincerely,

Gordon Adams, American University; Robert Art, Brandeis University; Deborah Avant, University of California, Irvine; Andrew Bacevich, Boston University; Richard Betts, Columbia University; Linda Bilmes, Kennedy School, Harvard University; Steven Clemons, New America Foundation; Joshua Cohen, Stanford University and Boston Review; Carl Conetta, Project on Defense Alternatives; Owen R. Coté Jr., Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Michael Desch, University of Notre Dame; Matthewitus, University of Minnesota; Benjamin H. Friedman, Cato Institute; Lt. Gen. (USA, Ret.) Robert G. Gard, Jr., Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation; David Gold, Graduate Program in International Affairs, The New School; William Hartung, Arms and Security Initiative, New America Foundation; David Hendrickson, Colorado College; Michael Intriligator, UCLA and Milken Institute; Robert Jervis, Columbia University; Sean Kay, Olmsted Foundation; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Elizabeth Kier, University of Washington; Charles Knight, Project on Defense Alternatives; Lawrence Korb, Center for American Progress; Peter Kroue, Georgetown University; Richard Ned Lebow, Dartmouth College; Walter LaFeber, Cornell University; Col. (USA, Ret.) Douglas Macgregor; Scott McCarthy, Project on Defense Alternatives; John Mearsheimer, University of Chicago; Steven Metz, national security analyst and writer; Steven Miller, Kennedy School, Harvard University and International Security; Jane Nolan, American Security Project; Robert Paarberg, Wellesley College and Harvard University; Barry Posen, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Christopher Preble, Cato Institute; David Rieff, author; Jeffrey Record, defense policy analyst and author; David Rieff, author; Thomas Schelling, University of Maryland; Jack Snyder, Columbia University; J. Ann Talley, University of Southern California; Robert Tucker, Johns Hopkins University; Stephen Van Evera, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Stephen Walt, Harvard University; Kenneth Waltz, Columbia University; Cindy Williams, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Daniel Wirs, University of California, Santa Cruz.

IN TRIBUTE TO STUART APPELBAUM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Stuart Appelbaum, an extraordinary man and my good friend, who has served with distinction as the president of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, representing thousands of working men and women across our nation. Last month, Mr. Appelbaum was honored by the venerable NAACP.

He was 89.

In 2008, he served as a member of the Electoral College as an Obama elector from New York State and of the federation’s Executive Council from 1998 until 2005, vice president of the New York State AFL–CIO and of the New York City Central Labor Council. An honors graduate of Brandeis University and Harvard Law School, he previously served as Chief House Counsel of the Democratic National Committee and as Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the State of Connecticut.

A skilled and tireless political activist who has dedicated his life to progressive causes, Stu Appelbaum was a Delegate to the 1996, 2000, 2004, and 2008 Democratic National Conventions and an Alternate Delegate to the 1992 Democratic National Convention. In 2008, he served as a member of the Electoral College as an Obama elector from New York.

By honoring Stuart Appelbaum last month, ADA is upholding its finest progressive traditions. Founded by Eleanor Roosevelt, John Kenneth Galbraith, Walter Reuther, Arthur Schlesinger, and Reinhold Niebuhr, the ADA seeks to promote and preserve Franklin D. Roosevelt’s vision for a New Deal for the American people resulting in a more just society.

With the election of President Obama, the ADA’s mission of promoting progressive American values has gained renewed momentum. Past presidents of the ADA include several of my distinguished colleagues in this House: JOHN LEWIS, BARNEY FRANK, CHARLES RANGEL, JOHN LEWIS, and Jim McDermott. Stuart Appelbaum is a proud heir to the ADA’s long and honored tradition, and it is therefore entirely fitting that his lifetime of extraordinarily effective and passionate advocacy has been recognized by Americans for Democratic Action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Stuart Appelbaum, a great American and a great New Yorker whose life’s work has improved the lives and working conditions of countless individuals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on the legislative day of January 6, 2011, and missed roll call vote 8. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. BILLY TAYLOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 7, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it brings me sadness and honor to pay final tribute to Dr. Billy Taylor. He died Tuesday, December 28, 2010, of heart failure in Riverside, New York. He was 89.

For eight decades, Dr. Taylor remained vigorously dedicated to nurturing jazz and creating new forums and opportunities for the artists who perform it. He encompassed that rare combination of creativity, intelligence, vision,
commitment and leadership, all qualities that made him one of our most cherished national treasures.

Dr. Billy Taylor began his career in New York City in 1942 in Harlem playing with Ben Webster’s quartet at the Three Deuces alongside Webster, Big Sid Catlett and Charlie Drayton opposite the Art Tatum Trio. He immersed himself in the jazz scene over the next few years, playing with many jazz greats of the day, such as Slam Stewart, Eddie South, Stuff Smith, Coleman Hawkins, Jo Jones and Roy Eldridge.

1949 marked the beginning of his two-year stint as house pianist at Birdland, the legendary New York City jazz club. He played with everybody—Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Oscar Pettiford, Art Blakey, Milt Jackson, Zoot Sims, Roy Haynes, and Kenny Dorham. He often played opposite such bands as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Stan Kenton and Lennie Tristano. Birdland provided Taylor one of his greatest learning experiences.

During the 1950s Dr. Taylor made some recordings with his own group for such labels as Prestige, Riverside, ABC Paramount, and Capital Records. He also recorded albums with Quincy Jones, Sy Oliver, Mundell Lowe, Neal Hefti, Eddie “Lockjaw Davis”, Sonny Stitt, Lucky Thompson, Coleman Hawkins and Dinah Washington. He started his own music publishing company, Duane Music, Inc.

Dr. Taylor worked regularly with his trio and hosted his own daily radio show on New York’s WLIB during the 1960s. He made guest shots on various TV shows and recordings for Capital Records. Taylor started writing about jazz and giving lectures/clinics to music teachers interested in teaching jazz.

He was a strong advocate for the arts. Taylor concentrated many of his efforts on generating funding for the arts and humanities. He focused on radio and television in order to gain better exposure for America’s classical music. He helped to facilitate many local and national broadcasts featuring jazz artists in live performances.

Dr. Taylor was tapped by Charles Kuralt to become arts correspondent for the popular television program, “CBS Sunday Morning” in the early 1980s.

In the 90s, Dr. Taylor was named Artistic Advisor for Jazz to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Since 1994, under the umbrella of Jazz at the Kennedy Center, he developed numerous concert series including the Art Tatum Pianorama, the Louis Armstrong Legacy series, the annual Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Festival, Beyond Category, Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead, and the Jazz Ambassadors Program.

“Dr. Taylor was a remarkable musician and humanitarian. He was a primary advisor for both the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters program in 1982 and was invaluable as the agency sought to strengthen its support for the jazz field in 2004,” said Wayne Brown, Director, Music & Opera Programs, NEA. Dr. Billy Taylor was named an NEA Jazz Master in 1988.

Throughout his career, Dr. Billy Taylor was one of those rare artists who was also a scholar of his art. He was a premiere pianist and an elegant stylist. Many acclaimed him as the most exciting pianist in the jazz world.

Dr. Billy Taylor will be remembered as one of the jazz world’s historians, master musicians, an educator, storyteller, sage, and jazz virtuoso.

I extend my sincere condolences to his family for this tremendous loss and share their enormous pride in all that he accomplished.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action
The Senate stands in recess pursuant to the provisions of S. Con. Res. 1, until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, January 25, 2011.

Committee Meetings
Committees not listed did not meet.

UNITED STATES ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the United States economic outlook, focusing on challenges for the monetary and fiscal policy, after receiving testimony from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action
Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 47 public bills, H.R. 212–258; 1 private bill, H.R. 259; and 14 resolutions, H.J. Res. 11–18; H. Con. Res. 7–8; and H. Res. 27–30 were introduced.

Pages H133–38

Additional Cosponsors: Page H138

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller (MI) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H105

Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 2, to repeal the job-killing health care law and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, and providing for consideration of H. Res. 9, instructing certain committees to report legislation replacing the job-killing health care law, by a recorded vote of 236 ayes to 181 noes with 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 10. Pages H107–18

Relating to the status of certain actions taken by Members-elect: The House agreed to H. Res. 27, relating to the status of certain actions taken by Members-elect, by a recorded vote of 257 ayes to 159 noes with 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 11. Pages H118–20

Clerk Designation: Read a letter from the Clerk wherein she designated Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts under the name of the Clerk of the House in case of her temporary absence or disability. Page H120

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, January 11th for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Page H122

Recess: The House recessed at 1:35 p.m. and reconvened at 1:42 p.m. Page H133

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H117, H118, H119–20. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Committee Meetings
No committee meetings were held.
Next Meeting of the Senate
10 a.m., Tuesday, January 25

Senate Chamber
Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

Next Meeting of the House of Representatives
12 noon, Tuesday, January 11

House Chamber
Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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