

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND THE
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, among the many beneficial reforms for women in the Affordable Care Act passed 2 years ago this week is an end to the discriminatory practice of gender rating in which individual women are charged more than men for the same coverage. We know for a fact that these sorts of discriminatory policies are not something that insurers would just change on their own.

According to a report that the National Women's Law Center released earlier this week, over 90 percent of the best-selling plans in States that have not already banned gender rating still charge women more than men for the very same coverage. This costs women and their families approximately \$1 billion a year. Because we fought—and we fought hard 2 years ago—gender rating will be a thing of the past in 2014. At long last, a woman's health will be put on equal footing with that of her spouse, her son, or her brother.

This is just one of the many benefits for women in the Affordable Care Act. I could not be more proud to have helped pass this piece of legislation, which will transform women's health in this country.

CONGRATULATING MONICA
KAUFMAN PEARSON

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I would like to join with my other Georgia colleagues today in congratulating Monica Kaufman Pearson on a distinguished career.

Ms. Pearson, known to most of us that have been watching her for a long time as Monica Kaufman, is retiring after more than 30 years as a "Nightbeat" anchor for WSB-TV and Channel 2 News in Atlanta.

I, along with many Georgians, have welcomed Ms. Pearson into my home every night while watching the news. Although her retirement is well deserved, she will be missed by us all.

After graduating from the University of Louisville, Ms. Pearson began her career as a reporter for the Louisville Times. Later she took part in the Summer Program for Minority Groups at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University of New York. Before coming to Atlanta, Ms. Pearson worked in the public relations field and as an anchor for WHAS-TV in Louisville.

Even with her retirement, I know she will continue to be a role model for the citizens of Georgia and continue using her helping hands to raise money for charity and local community organizations.

I wish Ms. Pearson the best in her future endeavors.

And, Monica, the nightly news will not be the same without you. Thank you very much.

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AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND
WOMEN

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, 2 years ago, I was really honored to serve as the chair of the House Committee on Rules and bring this historic Affordable Care Act to the House floor. It was one of my proudest moments. I'm standing here today, equally proud to defend that law from the ongoing war on women.

When it comes to health care, women are classified as a preexisting condition. For decades, women have been routinely charged more for health insurance than a man who seeks the very same coverage.

Did you know that if a business employs more women than men, it can choose to raise everybody's premiums, regardless of gender, to cover the higher cost, which is, in their mind, of insuring women?

Women not only pay for standard insurance coverage, but they also pay a separate cost for maternity coverage. In Illinois, a 30-year-old woman must pay \$278 a month and an additional \$270 a month for maternity coverage in case she needs it.

Insurance companies claim that these added costs are because women are more likely to visit doctors, get checkups, take prescription drugs, and have illnesses. Everyone knows that preventative care—everyone but the insurance companies, apparently—saves us money in the long run. We women in the majority of the United States are tired of being second-class citizens.

IPAB

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

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam Speaker, I'm a doctor. And as a doctor who still treats patients, I understand how important it is to have health care for the millions of Americans who depend upon it, particularly Medicare. Therefore, I fully support the repeal of the Independent Payment Advisory Board, a new government bureaucracy of 15 unelected, unaccountable officials created by the President's health care law.

Now, as it turns out, the IPAB can only save money by slashing payments to physicians, to Medicare Advantage plans and prescription drug plans—things that our seniors depend upon daily. I cannot imagine why my Demo-

crat colleagues support making it more difficult for a senior to obtain the care that she needs and deserves.

The faith that centralized planning of the IPAB will be successful in controlling costs brings to mind Samuel Johnson's quote regarding second marriages: "It is the triumph of hope over experience."

REMEMBERING THE REVEREND
MAURICE MOYER

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

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the Reverend Maurice Moyer, who died Tuesday, March 6, at age 93.

Rev. Moyer was one of Delaware's most respected and beloved citizens, and a prominent civil rights leader.

As president of the Wilmington Branch of the NAACP from 1960 to 1964, Rev. Moyer led the fight for open public accommodations and fair housing. He was part of the 1963 March on Washington, and participated in the voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965.

Rev. Moyer fought tirelessly for equal rights for all and was an inspiration to everyone who knew him. He did so much to make Delaware and our country a better place for all of us.

It was a privilege for me to know him personally and to join his family and friends for his 90th birthday party, where we celebrated his incredible life and legacy.

I will always remember Rev. Moyer's broad smile, his strong voice, and his kind heart. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.

IPAB

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my concern with the Independent Payment Advisory Board. This unelected bureaucracy is another example of the extreme flaws in the massive health care overhaul. The power that would be wielded by the IPAB is unprecedented. More troubling, it diminishes the oversight ability of Congress—a fundamental element of our Nation's system of checks and balances.

Many doctors and care providers in my home State of Florida are already unable to accommodate the new Medicare beneficiaries. The IPAB will create further uncertainty and could certainly harm seniors' ability to access care.

Madam Speaker, this health care bill is not working. We hear about major problems from every facet of the health care system, both patients and providers. Repealing the IPAB is an important step in rolling back this deeply flawed and unpopular health care bill.