

Forces since 1974, and has led to increased cooperation in regional and global counterterrorism efforts;

Whereas Jordan has provided key security and humanitarian support in both Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas Jordan hosted a United States-developed training program on human rights, proper use of force, and civil disturbances to further enhance peace and security in the West Bank;

Whereas in 1996, the United States designated Jordan as a major non-NATO ally, recognizing Jordan as a close ally with a strategic working relationship;

Whereas the Jordanian Armed Forces are proven reliable contributors to the international community, particularly as a member of the United Nations, contributing 57,000 troops to 18 different United Nations peacekeeping missions, most notably in Haiti where Jordan endured multiple casualties during such missions;

Whereas Jordan signed the historic Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty on October 26, 1994, normalizing relations between Jordan and Israel by resolving territorial disputes and establishing a partnership towards peaceful relations;

Whereas King Abdullah II has been a key advocate of peace between the Israelis and Palestinians, often reiterating the urgent need for peaceful reconciliation and offering to serve as a mediator and host for peace negotiations;

Whereas Jordan is a leader for progress, tolerance, and moderation in the Arab and Muslim worlds;

Whereas the economic partnership between the United States and Jordan was further strengthened through the signing of the United States-Jordan Free Trade Agreement by President Bill Clinton and King Abdullah II on October 24, 2000, and fully implemented on January 1, 2010;

Whereas in 2008, the United States and Jordan signed a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding in the amount of \$360,000,000 in economic support funds and \$300,000,000 per year in foreign military financing to further bolster the United States-Jordan strategic relationship;

Whereas the United States is strongly committed to the continued development and progress of the Jordanian people, civil society, and political institutions, specifically in the areas of democracy assistance, water and energy preservation, education services, and economic development;

Whereas the al-Assad regime, backed by Iran and Hizballah, has brutally suppressed dissent, conducting a campaign of violence that has fueled sectarian tensions and sparked a civil war in Syria;

Whereas the conflict in Syria has resulted in the loss of nearly 100,000 Syrian lives and the displacement of approximately 4,250,000 civilians, including nearly 1,800,000 who have fled Syria;

Whereas the Syrian conflict has contributed to sectarian conflict, extremism, and instability throughout the region;

Whereas the Government of Jordan has accepted a heavy burden of hosting and providing for the security and basic needs of approximately 500,000 refugees, with that number growing every day;

Whereas three-quarters of the refugees are women and children, and 1 in 5 refugees is under the age of 4;

Whereas the severity of the humanitarian crisis and the large number of refugees in Jordan places significant economic and social hardships on the country; and

Whereas the Government of Jordan has worked in partnership with the international community to provide for the needs of vulnerable refugee populations, including clean

water, food, shelter, health care, and education: Now, therefore, be it

Mr. ROYCE (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KEEP THE IRS OFF YOUR HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 322, I call up the bill (H.R. 2009) to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from enforcing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 322, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2009

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On May 10, 2013, the Internal Revenue Service admitted that it singled out advocacy groups, based on ideology, seeking tax-exempt status.

(2) This action raises pertinent questions about the agency’s ability to implement and oversee Public Law 111-148 and Public Law 111-152.

(3) This action could be an indication of future Internal Revenue Service abuses in relation to Public Law 111-148 and Public Law 111-152 given that it is their responsibility to enforce a key provision, the individual mandate.

(4) Americans accept the principle that patients, families, and doctors should be making medical decisions, not the Federal Government.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITING ENFORCEMENT OF PPACA AND HCERA.

The Secretary of the Treasury, or any delegate of the Secretary, shall not implement or enforce any provisions of or amendments made by Public Law 111-148 or 111-152.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2009.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I come to the floor today in support of H.R. 2009, legislation that will prevent the IRS from getting involved in Americans’ health care.

The IRS is already out of control, abusing its power to tax and to audit the activities of honest, hardworking Americans. The IRS has betrayed the trust of the American people. Yet ObamaCare granted the IRS 47 new powers, including giving confidential taxpayer information to other departments and applying new taxes and penalties. Well before the IRS started getting involved in your health care and sharing your information and forcing people to pay even more taxes, let’s first look at the job the IRS is already doing.

Back in 2011, I investigated claims that the IRS was threatening with higher taxes donors to conservative causes. It turned out to be true. The IRS was abusing its authority, and it was harassing conservatives; but that was just the tip of the iceberg. We soon learned of more accusations about how the IRS was targeting Americans for their political beliefs. What we have found so far—and we just have 3 percent of the documents from the IRS that we have requested—is that the IRS did leak confidential taxpayer information, that they did delay applications of groups supporting conservative causes, and that they did threaten conservatives with higher taxes.

And Democrats want to give this agency more power and authority? They want this agency involved in Americans’ health care? No way.

Even the agency’s own watchdog says the IRS cannot handle the job. Less than 2 weeks ago, the independent Treasury Inspector General stated that they are not confident about the IRS’s ability to protect confidential taxpayer information or to prevent fraud. Well, neither am I; and by every indication, neither are the American people.

It has been 3 years since the health care law was passed, and in less than 2 months, the administration claims it will be fully ready to implement the law; but in the face of all of these failures, of all of these breaches of the public trust, more Americans than ever want this law to be repealed.

Why? It’s simple: ObamaCare has brought increased health care costs to families and individuals; it has stifled businesses from expanding; and it has forced American job creators to cut jobs, wages, and hours.

Just yesterday, at a hearing in the Ways and Means Committee, a key official from Health and Human Services could not confirm that the health care law would lower the health care costs for hardworking families in my home State of Michigan.

But wasn’t this the signature promise of this administration, that premiums would be \$2,500 lower? And now the administration cannot make good on that promise.

With so little time before the exchanges are set to open and for families

to plan their health care spending for next year, it is extremely concerning that the administration cannot tell the American people what their health insurance will look like or what it will cost. Simply put, this law is a failure and ought to be repealed, but it didn't have to be this way.

The House Republican alternative to the Democrats' health care law, which I authored, was the only legislation scored by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office as meeting the top health priority of American families because it was the only bill that actually lowered the cost of health insurance premiums, and it didn't give the IRS a single new power. It kept the IRS out of your health care, which is exactly what this bill will do—keep the IRS off and out of your health care.

We should be cutting the IRS, not expanding it. We should reduce its power and authority and its ability to harass and abuse Americans. That's exactly what this bill does. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We are now 7 months into this House Republican session. It has been nothing more than a bridge to nowhere. Nowhere on jobs. Nowhere on immigration reform. Nowhere on a budget agreement. Nowhere on most appropriations bills.

Instead, House Republicans today continue their obsession—so vividly embraced by the chairman of our committee in his words—with trying to destroy the bridge built by the President and the Democratic Congress to somewhere vital—putting all Americans in charge of their own health care.

This bill before us is nothing more than a continuation of the Republicans' blind obsession with repealing the Affordable Care Act. This is how Republicans have chosen to spend the last day here before they recess this House for 5 weeks.

It's so clear. The Republican mission is to destroy, not implement, health care reform. Rather than help leading on the issue, House Republicans have spent the last 2-plus years trying to mislead Americans about health care rights under the ACA. Now we can expect more misinformation, and the statement of our chairman is loaded with it.

Thirteen States, for example, published preliminary premiums for marketplace coverage. Within those States, Americans will be able to purchase insurance at a price that is, on average, 20 percent below what the CBO estimated; and in Michigan, there will be 14 insurance carriers in the marketplace—and someone comes up here and says health care reform is failing.

So, to the American people, be prepared for more scare tactics and other misguided efforts from Republicans to convince constituents that applying for

health care coverage will be time-consuming and cumbersome, and be prepared for all kinds of misstatements about the powers and the role of the IRS.

This should be said categorically. Neither the IRS nor the Department of Health and Human Services will have access to medical records or other personal history—no access whatsoever.

Five weeks of recess await Republicans when they adjourn this House today. I hope when they return they will at last turn their attention to the pressing economic issues that Americans expect the Congress to address.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP. At this time, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia, Dr. PRICE, a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) control the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia will control the time?

There was no objection.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I want to commend the chairman for his work on this and in so many vital areas of the issue of health care on our committee, and I want to thank him for the time and the opportunity to bring this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, the Republicans' goal in health care is to make certain that we have the highest quality health care in the world. That's our desire. We simply want it to be patient-centered health care, not government-centered health care. We believe that patients and families and doctors ought to be making medical decisions, not Washington, D.C. So this bill, H.R. 2009, grows out of the IRS's activities that have come to light in this country over the past number of months. As the chairman mentioned, we've been doing a lot of oversight hearings in our committee.

The American people have drawn a conclusion about the IRS at this point, and that conclusion is that it cannot be trusted now. The chairman mentioned that the IRS has targeted groups that have come to the IRS asking for a tax-exempt status. It has targeted groups for their political ideology. The IRS has leaked donor information to those groups, and many of us believe—and I think it will come out—that the IRS has, in fact, targeted donors to those groups for audits to those individual Americans.

Mr. Speaker, this is chilling activity from the Internal Revenue Service, so the American people have lost their faith and trust in the Internal Revenue Service. That's why this bill is so important.

This is a very simple piece of legislation—two pages, in fact. All it says, simply, is what the American people believe, and that is that the IRS should not be charged and have the authority to either implement or enforce the Af-

fordable Care Act. I want to commend over 140 Members from this House of Representatives for being cosponsors, and we have hundreds of citizen cosponsors from across the country.

Some say that this isn't necessary, that it is not going to accomplish anything, that there is no reason the IRS would want that information anyway. The fact of the matter is that that's exactly what they said about what they did for the tax-exempt groups. They said, Well, it wasn't necessary for them to get that information about political ideology or beliefs or prayers that prayer groups were offering. That wasn't necessary either.

So, if that were not necessary, Mr. Speaker, how can the American people have faith and confidence that the IRS won't do something that also is unnecessary, and that is to engage in implementing themselves into that trusted relationship between patients and physicians?

□ 1045

Then another piece of evidence, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest is the individual who's running the IRS division that is charged with the enforcement of the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Speaker, that individual is Sarah Hall Ingram. You don't have to look too far back in her biography to recognize that she was the individual who was, in fact, in charge of the tax exempt group in the IRS at the time when the challenges to the IRS had been focused.

Mr. Speaker, the overwhelming percent of the American people understand and appreciate that the IRS should not be involved in the health care of this Nation. We believe patients and families and doctors ought to be making medical decisions, not Washington, D.C., and certainly not the Internal Revenue Service.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT), another member of the committee.

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I would remind my distinguished colleague from Georgia of a story in the Bible about a king who was very famous and one day noticed on the wall some writing. He had someone come in and interpret for him, and the writing said: "Your days are numbered upon the Earth."

Your days are numbered on this issue. You have 59 more days. I'm sure you can bring up a bill every single day to try and repeal it. The Speaker has announced there will be two more, but it will not work. This is going to be the law on 1 October, and it's going to go into effect. The Supreme Court has spoken. The Speaker has actually said, "It's the law of the land." Yet we see this hopeless strategy—it's worse than hopeless. It's weak and it's mean. What you're saying is you want to take away

from people what they already have, guaranteed issue, coverage for their kids to age 26, and lifetime limits will be gone. All of that you want to take away.

Have a great break, because you're going to go back to your districts and explain for 38 days why you will not provide health care coverage for the people of America. I hear there's a mythical bill with 141 signatures. The Republicans have been running the Ways and Means Committee for 16 out of the last 18 years, and we have never had a bill put in front of us for a vote. It's never been through the Rules Committee. It's never been out to the floor.

You have no plan. You have a piece of paper that you wave around, but you won't go out and defend it. The President came and put a bill out here, and we passed it, and we're defending it, and it's going to go into effect and provide what all Americans want: security if they get sick; they want to know they'll be covered; they want to know they won't be bankrupted.

Vote "no" again today, and we'll be back after the break for a few more "no" votes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are advised to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD a letter from The Seniors Coalition in support of H.R. 2009.

THE SENIORS COALITION,
Washington, DC, July 30, 2013.

Hon. DR. TOM PRICE,
Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PRICE: I am writing to you today on behalf of the over four million members and supporters of The Seniors Coalition in support of your bill H.R. 2009, "The Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act." The Seniors Coalition was originally founded as a public advocacy group fighting to repeal the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act. Since 1990, TSC has grown rapidly and expanded its advocacy to include any issue that concerns America's senior citizens. Today the Coalition is one of the largest grassroots advocacy organizations in Washington, D.C. in terms of number of supporters nationwide. TSC currently has over four million supporters representing every state in the union.

The Obama Administration, including the IRS, has betrayed the trust of the American people. Allowing the IRS to enforce ObamaCare is opening up the door to more abuse, more targeting and more harassment of American citizens. The vast majority of the American people do not support ObamaCare, and President Obama is ignoring the will of the people.

That is why The Seniors Coalition is writing today to fully support H.R. 2009. Clearly, the IRS has proven itself either unwilling or unable to prudently and impartially enforce the law, and we certainly cannot trust them with our health care.

Thank you for all your hard work Dr. Price, and please don't hesitate to contact me directly if there is anything that The Seniors Coalition and its over four million members and supporters in all 50 states can do to assist you in your effort to de-fund/repeal ObamaCare.

Sincerely,

SEAN FERRITOR,
Executive Director.

I'm now pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for bringing this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I'd be willing to bet if you took a poll in any household in America and asked, Who do you trust, the IRS or your doctor, doctors would overwhelmingly be trusted; the IRS would be overwhelmingly distrusted.

I don't understand when we actually pass laws in this Congress restricting the access to health care information and putting severe penalties on our health care providers for releasing health care information and these HIPAA laws—they've been around a while now, I'd say—and then we write a bill that turns the entire health care system administration over to the one agency that the American people hate more than any other agency.

Some of the Democrats like it because they like to get other people's money and spend it. The reality is the IRS is not trusted, and it wasn't trusted before the events that have been described here today. Today they're totally distrusted. In fact, they are totally feared because of what they can do to the private lives of American citizens. This bill speaks for the American people, and they say don't let the IRS get their hands on our health care. They will destroy us.

Remember, they're the one agency that doesn't have to meet a burden of proof. They require the public to meet the burden of proof.

Don't let the IRS get their hands on our health care.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Saying that the entire administration of health care is turned over to the IRS is a big lie. The IRS will not have access to the medical records or personal health history of a single American.

I now yield 2 minutes to a distinguished colleague of mine from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this is a fitting conclusion to a week that has shown the collapse of the Republican legislative agenda. Remember, this is the time we were supposed to be voting on budgets, but the Republicans cannot even bring themselves to allow a vote on the budget that they themselves have mandated. We're not voting on the Transportation-HUD; we're not voting on Interior. They refuse to allow a conference committee to be appointed so that we can reconcile differences on the budget, setting up a showdown over a shutdown of the government next month.

Now we're dealing with health care for arguably the 40th time that they are going to "repeal" it. The bill is not going anywhere. They repeatedly demonstrated at our hearing yesterday in Ways and Means that my Republican colleagues don't even understand how the bill that they are so adamantly opposed to works.

We have not seen any attempt to improve, to refine. What we have seen is an unprecedented effort to sabotage legislation, to make it not work for the American people, to confuse, to undercut. This is something that is unprecedented, to the best of my knowledge, in what we have had in Congress in the past. What more fitting illustration of a group that's bankrupt of ideas and bent on simply attempting to force their way for an agenda that is so extreme that they cannot agree to bring it to the floor to vote on it.

I urge rejection of this charade.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I now insert into the RECORD a letter from the group Let Freedom Ring that endorses H.R. 2009.

LET FREEDOM RING,
July, 2013.

DEAR FRIEND: You have no doubt heard by now that senior members of the United States Internal Revenue Service were involved in a politically-motivated effort to blunt the impact of the tea party movement and other organizations not in sync with President Barack Obama's agenda for America.

We don't yet know all the facts but we do know that some groups had their applications for non-profit status "slow walked" through the process, existing groups were subjected to comprehensive audits, many were loaded down with intrusive and inappropriate questions about the prayers of their members and other activities, and that tax returns of major donors and conservative operatives were audited.

Things are so bad that one senior IRS official who appears to have been involved "took the fifth" before a congressional investigating committee.

If that were not enough, some of the same people that look to have been involved in the effort to politically harass potential opponents of the president's agenda have now been put in charge of expansion of the IRS's role in monitoring individual and corporate compliance with Obamacare.

Our good friend Dr. Tom Price, who represents Georgia's 6th Congressional District, is taking the bull by the horns—but he needs our help. He has introduced a bill—H.R. 2009—that would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from implementing or enforcing any provisions of the president's health care law.

Congress needs to act—now—and they need pressure from you to do so. They need to get behind Dr. Price's bill before the IRS can do even more damage. Will you please take a moment to write to your member of Congress and your two Senators and urge them to support Dr. Price's legislation? Tell them to cut off funding for the expansion of the IRS for Obamacare unless and until the American people have all the answers about how President Obama and his subordinates politicized the IRS to harass their political opponents.

The whole business is suspicious, especially since the IRS has for the last three years been denying to Congress that any such activity or any activity like it was occurring. Congress is now asking questions and the Obama Administration has become evasive—despite a report by the IRS's own inspector general that the agency had committed wrongdoing.

The IRS can no longer be trusted to behave in a non-partisan manner. It should not be given extra authority until it can prove once again that it will not abuse the public trust.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of freedom.

Sincerely,

COLIN HANNA,
President.

I'm pleased to yield 1½ minutes to a Member from the great State of Michigan, Dr. BENISHEK, and a fellow physician.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2009, the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act, and urge my colleagues to support this necessary legislation.

The bill will keep the Internal Revenue Service from implementing any aspect of the President's health care law. With the recent revelations that employees of the IRS targeted U.S. citizens based on their political views, it's imperative that we keep the IRS from being further involved than it already is in the lives of the American people.

This legislation would repeal both the individual mandate and the employer mandate, while at the same time helping to shrink the IRS.

As a doctor, I've been taking care of patients for the last 30 years. I know that putting the Federal Government between patients and doctors will be disastrous. Many families in northern Michigan agree, and they want to see this law repealed. This legislation is a good step toward rolling back this massive expansion of Federal Government power.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of it.

Mr. LEVIN. It's now a special pleasure for me to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman who presided over the passage of Medicare 48 years ago and has worked on health care issues his entire historic career, Mr. DINGELL from the State of Michigan.

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

Mr. DINGELL. I thank my beloved friend for yielding me this time, Mr. Speaker.

I rise to ask: Aren't you embarrassed to go a 40th time in a fruitless, hopeless act? This is the 40th time we've tried to kill the legislation. It costs us \$1.5 million every time, none of which have been successful.

My Republican colleagues have never come forward with a proposal which they have presented to this House, but they sit over there railing and complaining about what is going on. They're going to take the rights of the American people for protection against pre-existing condition, bans on their insurance. They're going to take away from the American people all kinds of protections which we have in the Affordable Care Act.

The Speaker the other day said the Republicans were the party of repeal. I think he's right. I suspect we don't want to call them the Republicans any-

more, but I think we ought to call them the "Repealicans" or perhaps the "Repealican'ts," because they've never been able to repeal anything, and they can't enact legislation.

There have been 12 bills, I think, that this Congress has sent to the White House, and there is small prospect of anything more coming from here. It's interesting to note they can't move a budget; they can't do legislation on jobs; they're incapable of seeing to it that we do the other things that are necessary to help the middle class. Yet we keep coming over here with nonsense like this.

The Republican Party is like the Bourbons of France: they forget nothing because they never learned anything.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I now insert into the RECORD a letter from the group Americans for Prosperity which endorses H.R. 2009.

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY,
Arlington, VA, July 15, 2013.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PRICE: On behalf of more than two million Americans for Prosperity activists in all 50 states, I applaud you for introducing the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act (H.R. 2009), which would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from implementing the President's health care law.

The health care law grants the IRS an alarming expansion of new power, essentially granting the agency the authority to oversee every American's health insurance decisions. The IRS will be responsible for enforcing the health insurance mandates on individuals and employers, collecting the 21 new taxes created in the law, and cross-referencing individuals' health insurance exchange applications with IRS records.

AFP is deeply concerned that all Americans will now be asked to turn over the private health insurance information about their children and families to a disgraced organization that has admitted to abusing its power and processing applications in a biased, political manner. How can the American people trust that the IRS won't also target American citizens who disagree with the President when enforcing the health care law?

Your legislation also affirms the common-sense principle that control over health care decisions should remain between American families and their doctors, not Washington bureaucrats like the IRS. Americans for Prosperity is proud to support H.R. 2009, your legislation to prohibit the IRS from enforcing provisions of the health care law. I urge your colleagues to support its passage, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

CHRISTINE HARBIN HANSON,
Policy Analyst, Americans for Prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON), a gentleman who's a member of the Appropriations Committee, a fellow who has led on this issue for his entire career.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the gentleman from Georgia filing this important legislation. I feel my day is not complete if we don't get a chance to vote to cut spending and abolish ObamaCare.

We were sent here by our constituents to protect the Treasury and do ev-

erything we can to keep the government out of their lives and out of their pockets. Yet ObamaCare contains more than 20 tax increases and gives the IRS unprecedented authority to collect personal health information from more than 300 million Americans.

ObamaCare requires all insurance companies to report to the IRS the name, address, identification number, and type of insurance policy purchased by every customer, along with a determination of whether or not the insurance was "government approved."

I'm very proud to be a co-author of Dr. PRICE's legislation that will prohibit the IRS from collecting our personal health care information. The IRS has proven they cannot be trusted by targeting organizations based on their political affiliation. Since the IRS has admitted this, I've heard from so many constituents who are members of patriotic organizations. They've stepped up for the first time in their lives to get involved in politics and organizations like the Texas Tea Party, the Katy Tea Party, and the King Street Patriots. For standing up as patriots and trying to do the right thing for the right reasons, they were targeted by the IRS and harassed.

Today the IRS is spending 80 percent of its budget trying to implement ObamaCare, and Treasury Secretary Jack Lew recently testified the IRS has approximately 700 full-time staff working on ObamaCare implementation. Now the IRS wants to hire an additional 2,000 bureaucrats to continue to implement ObamaCare.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS), who has been a leader on this issue.

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

□ 1100

Mr. ANDREWS. Colleagues, somewhere in America today a family is going to get the devastating news you all dread about your children: they're going to hear that that lump in their daughter's stomach is cancer. And they're going to go home and they're going to have all the agony and they're going to have all of the unthinkable thoughts that parents are going to have in that situation, but they are going to be faced with another problem because they have no health insurance. Both the mom and the dad work. They make about \$40,000 a year between the two of them. They don't get coverage at work, and they can't afford health insurance. So their agony is not just being worried about the health of their child, they are worried about the fact that if they give the child the care that she needs, they'll lose everything that they have and wind up in bankruptcy court.

The Affordable Care Act says to that couple that starting January 1, for

about \$40 a week, they can have health insurance coverage as good as Members of Congress do. That's what the Affordable Care Act says.

This bill repeals that for that family. Those who are prepared to vote for this bill should also be prepared to answer the following question: If you want to say to that family that their concern isn't important enough, what's your plan? What's your answer to them?

Now, we'll hear that people have introduced bills and sent around letters. Here are the facts. It has been almost 1,000 days that the Republican Party has been back in control of the House of Representatives. The number of bills they have voted on to replace this law is zero. Zero. Forty times to repeal it; zero times to replace it.

This debate is not about Republicans and Democrats; it's about that family with that daughter that has no health insurance if you repeal this law and pass this bill. This is no plan, this is no responsibility, and this is no way to deal with the concerns of middle class Americans.

Vote "no."

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD a letter of support for H.R. 2009 from the organization Restore America's Voice.

RESTORE AMERICA'S VOICE
FOUNDATION,
Houston, TX, July 12, 2013.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PRICE: Our more than two million supporters are grateful for your efforts to strip the IRS of any authority over the Affordable Care Act as embodied in H.R. 2009 which you have introduced. Our organization fully endorses this legislation.

We note with discomfort that this agency seems not only beyond the control of those tasked with oversight but willfully resists full disclosure of questionable practices and abusive methods in Congressional testimony. We have concluded, based on the evidence at hand, that this agency is being cynically used for political purposes to frustrate and intimidate law-abiding citizens who disagree with Administration policies.

This distortion of the proper role and functioning of the IRS makes turning over responsibility for the Affordable Care Act subsidies, penalties and, significantly, access to private insurance and medical records, a frightening prospect. We are therefore in complete agreement with the purpose of H.R. 2009 and fully support passage as the only responsible and prudent course of action.

Thank you for leadership and hard work in developing this legislation and for representing the best interests of not only your constituents but the American people.

Respectfully and gratefully yours,
KEN HOAGLAND,

Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR), the majority leader of the House of Representatives.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act, and I want to congratulate the gentleman from Georgia in his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I think it is not only a timely bill, but a bill that is essential to the health and well-being of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, in response to the gentleman's assertions, the prior gentleman who spoke from New Jersey, I would simply say those scare tactics do not have a place in legitimate debate on this floor. Scare tactics to say that somehow Republicans on our side of the aisle don't care about people's health care are just not true. We don't believe in omnibus Washington-engineered health care. That's what's going on here—Washington bureaucrats deciding what kind of health care you can have, which doctors you can see, how much those doctors and hospitals are going to get paid, and how the insurance companies have to act. All of that is in the hands of Washington bureaucrats under ObamaCare, which is why this bill and this law is suffering so much in the minds of the public. This is not the right way to go.

We believe in patient-centered care. Republicans believe that it ought to be about the doctor-patient relationship, not between the bureaucrats and the doctor. It ought not be about the bureaucrats and the insurance companies. It ought to start with the patients and their families.

So these scare tactics, really, Mr. Speaker, are not relevant to this discussion; and they are just that, scare tactics. We care about the health and well-being of the American people, which is why this bill is coming to the floor.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, we've learned that the IRS has been abusing its power by targeting and punishing American citizens for their political beliefs and then recklessly spending taxpayer dollars on lavish conferences and bonuses for its employees. This kind of government abuse must stop. The last thing we should do now is to allow the IRS to play such a central role in our health care.

The IRS has a role in nearly 50 different aspects of ObamaCare. The agency's involvement is so extensive that there is a designated office within the IRS just to implement ObamaCare. The IRS will have access to the American people's protected health care information. Given that this same agency has illegally disclosed protected taxpayer information, the privacy concerns raised by many are legitimate. This is nothing short of an unwelcome, Big Government overreach into the most personal aspect of our lives.

ObamaCare is bad for the economy and for working middle class families. It increases costs, impedes innovation, and we know is now turning full-time jobs into part-time jobs, which is why so many on both sides of the political spectrum are now beginning to realize, in the words of three Democratic union leaders, that this law is creating nightmare scenarios in the health and well-being of millions of hardworking Americans.

The legislation before us today will at least prevent the unnecessary intrusion of the IRS into our health care. Members of both parties should be fo-

cused on removing the Federal bureaucracy from the everyday lives of the American people, and this act will do just that.

Again, I'd like to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) for his hard work on this issue, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), another distinguished member of our committee.

Mr. DOGGETT. The majority leader is absolutely right about scare tactics. If you are an uninsured American and you get a diagnosis of cancer this morning or you are hit in a head-on collision this afternoon or you have a child born with a disability, you ought to be very scared. He's also absolutely right about the need for patient-centered health care. We're concerned about that. We're concerned that patients without insurance today are centered—they're centered right into bankruptcy court. More and more Americans are faced with a health care crisis.

This bill has nothing to do with the Internal Revenue Service or the Treasury Department or restricting their rights. It's about restricting your rights. Now that we finally have a chance to protect Americans from insurance monopoly price gouging, from fine print in the contract for those who do have insurance that denies rights at the very time that you need them the most, that kind of protection about to go into effect, along with the right of so many Americans who are uninsured to go to a competitive private insurance marketplace and pick the policy that is best for their family, and for many Americans to have a premium tax credit, a tax credit that they want to deny to you.

And what alternative do they offer? Well, the best source is the official Republican Web site. I urge you—although you will find plenty of misinformation there—to go to GOP.gov because you'll find one very revealing fact. When you look there to see what the Republicans have to offer as an alternative to ObamaCare, it says two words: "in progress." It's been in progress since 2 and a half years ago, when they voted the first time to repeal ObamaCare, right up to today, when they vote for the 40th time to do it.

They have only one alternative to ObamaCare, and it's called NothingCare. It's called do nothing but allow these insurance monopolies to continue to deny rights to our people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. DOGGETT. The folks that I represent, the working families from San Antonio to Austin, they deserve to have some assistance. We have provided it to them with guaranteed

rights. Some are in effect now, and some are about to go into effect. Don't let these Republicans deny those rights to our families and replace it with NothingCare.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I include for the RECORD a letter endorsing and supporting H.R. 2009 from the group FreedomWorks.

FREEDOMWORKS,

Washington, DC,

DEAR FREEDOMWORKS MEMBER: As one of our millions of FreedomWorks members nationwide, I urge you to contact your representative and urge him or her to co-sponsor H.R. 2009, the "Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act". Introduced by Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), this bill would stop the Internal Revenue Service or any other Treasury department from enforcing any part of ObamaCare.

Currently, the IRS will be the most crucial department for actually enacting and enforcing ObamaCare. The premium subsidies that are supposed to help individuals purchase health insurance through the exchanges are actually tax credits, distributed by the IRS. And most significantly, the IRS is responsible for administering the "tax" upon individuals who refuse to purchase a government-approved insurance plan—the individual mandate.

More ominously, ObamaCare requires the IRS to collect a vast amount of sensitive information about the kind of insurance coverage you have, and will store this information in a massive new database.

ObamaCare's supporters, of course, claim that the IRS would never share the medical information they collect, and that the agency would only collect the exact data necessary to determine eligibility for premium subsidies. And yet, a lawsuit filed in California alleges that the IRS illegally seized the medical records of 10 million individuals in that state.

Having the same organization that is both targeting political opponents and stealing people's medical records in charge of people's health care seems like a recipe for disaster. Rep. Price's bill would stop the IRS in its tracks, completely erasing their role in ObamaCare.

I urge you to contact your representative and urge him or her to co-sponsor H.R. 2009, the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act today.

Sincerely,

MATT KIBBE,
President and CEO,
FreedomWorks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN), a fellow member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the health decisions of individual Americans should be made between patients and their doctors. The Internal Revenue Service should not be a part of that equation.

We all know, all Americans know now, that the IRS has inappropriately used its authority to target and intimidate certain individuals and organizations based on their personal beliefs. With 2,000 more IRS agents, more Washington bureaucrats, we'll open the door to more abuse under ObamaCare—more targeting, more harassment of American citizens.

Physicians know the best care for their patients, not unelected bureau-

crats in Washington. We should be encouraging patients to take control of their own health care through consumer-directed health care plans, not ceding control to the government.

I would encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, protect the doctor-patient relationship, and do what is needed to make sure that government overreach is not involved in American health care.

Mr. LEVIN. It is now my pleasure to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the minority whip, who has devoted so much time to health care during his career.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

What a perfect bill this is. Our Republican friends don't like taxes, they don't like the collection of taxes, and, of course, none of us do. And they don't like affordable care for our citizens, quality care for our citizens, accessible care for our citizens. So, with this stroke, they can attack both.

The gentleman who just spoke asserts that the American people know. Republicans have made an assertion about the oversight of taxpayers to see whether or not they are committing fraud, i.e., claiming to be social welfare organizations when everybody in America knows they are solely political organizations; and the Republicans never mention it was across the board, not targeted. And the Affordable Care Act, they don't like that either. They would, as my friend from Texas said, still like to have the insurance companies in charge—not the patient, not the doctor, but the insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, less than 2 weeks ago, Republicans were on this floor for the 38th and 39th times to repeal the Affordable Care Act, the accessible care act, the quality care act. Now we have the 40th time we've been at this.

The American people, of course, want to see us working on jobs. They want to see us working on investment and education. They want to see us being able to compete with the world. But what do we do? We continue to beat this horse. And contrary to my Republican friends' assertion, Americans say, overwhelmingly, when asked do you want repeal or do you want a fix, make it better, do things better, make it more efficient, they opt for the latter overwhelmingly.

But as the gentleman from Texas just said, you go to the Web site—and not 2½ years; not 2½ years, I tell my friend from Texas, it has been 7 years, since 2006 when we started working on this—but there's no fix, no fix on the Web site, no fix on this floor.

Today, their newfound populism is nowhere to be seen as they vote to repeal tax credits and subsidies designed to make health care more affordable for those same people—working families and small businesses—who haven't been able to get insurance and are left at risk without the security of it.

Suddenly, the party that never met a tax break it didn't like is pursuing a

tax increase of more than \$1 trillion on small businesses and the middle class. As a result, they are making health care more expensive, and millions of Americans will no longer be able to access affordable health care.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this bill makes all those folks pawns in Republicans' single-focused quest to undo health care reform at the expense of every other pressing challenge we face as a Nation.

It's shameful, Mr. Speaker, that this House continues to waste the American people's times on health care repeal votes that won't go anywhere, and they know it. The Senate will not pass this bill and the President will not sign it.

We have pressing business before us that needs immediate attention: finishing appropriations bills, completing our work on the budget that provides a balanced alternative to the sequester, ensuring America can pay its bills, and taking action to create jobs. That's what we ought to be doing, not this continued foolishness.

□ 1115

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia has 16 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Michigan has 13½ minutes remaining.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BRIDENSTINE), a freshman Member.

Mr. BRIDENSTINE. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting that the minority whip would like Republicans to help in fixing this bill, considering that they weren't interested at all in Republican input when they passed it in the middle of the night with a pure party-line vote.

I think everybody understood that the promise of ObamaCare has been thoroughly discredited, but the worst is yet to come.

The authors of the bill promised that it would bring down the cost of health care, but premiums have gone up substantially. They promised that if you like your health care plan and the doctor you have, you can keep it.

Now, when you go to the President's healthcare.gov Web site, it says that "Depending on the plan you choose in the marketplace, you may be able to keep your current doctor."

Many supporters promised that the bill would actually create jobs, but even Teamsters Union President James Hoffa has now said that the bill will "destroy the foundation of the 40-hour workweek."

A small group of Members, in 2010, led by former Congressman Bart Stupak, had the chance to inviolably prohibit any funds in ObamaCare from being used to pay for abortions or abortion-inducing drugs. Unfortunately, they caved.

And now, companies like Hobby Lobby are being forced into court to prevent ObamaCare from requiring that they provide health care services which directly violate their conscience and their religious principles, values and rights that are enshrined in the First Amendment.

The IRS, too, has irrefutably proven the political nature and intimidation tactics of the work it performs every day, an attitude that will, beyond a shadow of a doubt, carry over into its tag-team partnership with HHS in enforcing ObamaCare.

Let's pass H.R. 2009 and start putting a stop to this madness before it gets even worse.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), another distinguished member of our committee.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Michigan for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, what turned out to be a silly exercise has suddenly turned into an insane exercise. We find ourselves, for the 40th time in the House of Representatives, debating repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

We understand they don't like it. But I beseech my colleagues on the other side to start working with us to improve a system that's in desperate need of reform, and make changes and adjustments along the way as we learn what's working and what isn't. That's the only way this can work.

But let me just inject a few facts into this debate, especially for the benefit of the previous speaker. Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, U.S. health care spending grew at 3.9 percent for the last 3 years, the lowest growth rate in over 50 years.

Medicare per beneficiary spending rose just 0.4 percent last year, the lowest rate since it was created in 1965. Medicaid per beneficiary spending dropped by 1.9 percent in 2012. And according to the Congressional Budget Office, Medicare and Medicaid will now spend \$1 trillion less over the next 10 years than previously projected.

Nearly \$15 billion in fraudulent Medicare payments have been recovered and recaptured under the Affordable Care Act. Hospital readmissions under Medicare have fallen for the first time on record, resulting in 70,000 fewer readmissions in the second half of last year alone.

And more than 250 new Accountable Care Organizations, under the Affordable Care Act, serving over 4 million Medicare beneficiary enrollees are getting paid now according to the quality of health care being delivered, and no longer the quantity of services being rendered.

Finally, the growth in private plan premiums has also slowed, Mr. Speaker. Annual premiums for employer-sponsored family health care increased by only 4 percent in 2012, the smallest increase in the last 13 years.

We still have more work to do, but this debate and effort to delay and to

defund and to dismantle and to destroy the Affordable Care Act is not where we need to go as a nation.

I encourage my colleagues to once again vote "no" on this ill-conceived legislation.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments from my friend from Wisconsin. His chastising us for voting to repeal or change portions of the Affordable Care Act is curious, in light of the fact that the gentleman, himself, I believe, supported one of our efforts just 2 weeks ago on delaying the employer mandate. But hope springs eternal that he'll be able to support our efforts in this endeavor on H.R. 2009.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), another distinguished member of our committee.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this misnamed piece of legislation. It actually should be called The 40th Time We've Wasted the Taxpayers' Time and Money Act.

This is a bill that's not new to us. We've seen it before. We've seen this movie before, 39 times as a matter of fact, and we know how it ends.

This is just another attempt to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, and we've wasted too much time and too much money on this already. What we should be doing is working to make the ACA better, or spending our time trying to help pass some jobs legislation.

This bill is particularly cruel because it hits the poorest among us the hardest, and we've seen that movie before also. And we saw it play out—that's why we have this piece of legislation.

This is in response to a national crisis. This just didn't come about by itself. Hospitals and doctors and clinics in all of our districts, they provided \$100 billion a year in uncompensated care. Families were one layoff away from not having access to health care. People with preexisting conditions that occurred through no fault of their own, maybe they had bad luck with having cancer, or gave birth through a C-section, a preexisting condition, and they could not get coverage. People in all of our districts were hitting the lifetime cap on their health care.

This was no accident. It was in response to a crisis.

Let's get to work. Let's get this thing improved. Let's put people back to work and stop messing around with this foolishness.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will insert a letter in support of H.R. 2009 from the Americans for Tax Reform into the RECORD.

I reserve the balance of my time.

[From Americans for Tax Reform, June 20, 2013]

ATR SUPPORTS H.R. 2009, THE "KEEP THE IRS OFF YOUR HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2013"

(By Ryan Ellis)

ATR supports H.R. 2009, the "Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013," sponsored by Cong. Tom Price (R-Ga.)

ATR is pleased to announce its support for H.R. 2009, the "Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013." The bill is sponsored by medical doctor and Congressman Tom Price (R-Ga.) We would urge all Congressmen to co-sponsor and support the bill.

GAO has reported that there are 47 new powers the IRS has acquired under the Obamacare law. We here at ATR have pointed out time and again the 20 new or higher taxes that are contained in Obamacare. With a new scandal coming out of the IRS seemingly every day, the last thing that agency should be doing is snooping into the personal health care lives of over 300 million Americans.

Yet that's just what the IRS is about to do. They will be the agency tasked with implementing the individual mandate and the employer mandate. They will force all of us to disclose our personal health identification information to them when we file our 1040s every April. They will be talking to our insurance companies and the Department of Health and Human Services about our health insurance packages.

This is outrageous. The IRS should have nothing to do with our health care. Passage of H.R. 2009 would ensure that the agency which gave us Star Trek videos and Tea Party harassment keeps its hands off our health care.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), another member of our committee.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of America's working families, and against this bill.

I'm just baffled as to why we would take away tax credits that help working families, for the first time in many instances, afford insurance, particularly as this majority seems to have never met a tax break they didn't like. Well, at least not until today.

Time after time, the Republican majority defends special interest tax breaks, tax breaks provided to owners of corporate jets, subsidies for Big Oil, tax writeoffs for big corporations, even as they're laying off American workers, and moving more of their operations overseas.

But where is that same zeal today in defending middle class tax cuts for middle class Americans?

Maybe I shouldn't be surprised. After all, this majority has repeatedly tried to undermine this tax credit since its inception. They've even sought to require hardworking Americans to pay the entire credit back if they get a slight increase in pay or a bonus for good work.

My colleagues, the majority has crossed some bizarre threshold today, going from principled opposition to dangerous obsession.

Now, I know some Republicans will say they're doing this because they have issues with the IRS. Should we expect a bill on the floor when we come back after the August break to stop the IRS from sending people their income tax refunds?

No, because this is just an excuse they're using.

This bill is 100 percent about denying Americans access to affordable health care.

In New York 1.5 million people will be denied tax credits if this bill is enacted.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. CROWLEY. My colleagues, I am tired of this dog-and-pony-show. Yes, Members return to their districts for a few weeks, but political red meat is not what this country needs.

We need a Congress with a vision for tomorrow, a vision focused on creating jobs and strengthening our economy, not a 40th vote on a new, even more dangerous way to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will include into the RECORD a letter endorsing H.R. 2009 from a group of six taxpayer advocate organizations.

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

AUGUST 2, 2013.

Hon. TOM PRICE,
Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PRICE, We the undersigned groups, representing millions of Americans, strongly support your legislation, H.R. 2009, the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013. This bill would prohibit the U.S. Treasury Department from enforcing any provision of the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), ensuring that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) would be removed from implementing or enforcing any component of Obamacare.

The last several months have proven to be an eye opening experience for those who are concerned with the growing power of the federal government, especially the IRS. Repeated and systemic encroachment into the lives of American citizens by targeting the very thing they cherish the most, the freedom of speech, is a cause of great concern among many people from all sides of the political spectrum. It is imperative to take steps to ensure we rein in the power of an organization that has proven to be incapable of handling the authority they have right now with the responsibility and dignity the American people expect. New developments on the unnerving offenses have been uncovered on a regular basis for the last few months and it is time to make certain that the IRS is unable to extend these offenses into the lives of citizens when it comes to their health care.

This legislation makes explicitly clear that the neither the Treasury Department, nor "any delegate" shall have the power to enforce any provision or amendment from Obamacare at anytime going forward as the Administration moves to implement the law. It is paramount that this legislation passes, with overwhelming support, as it is clear that the American people have no desire to have the IRS involved in the decisions they and their families are making when it comes to their health care. We have already seen the consequences of the President's health care law on premiums and job creation and it would be catastrophic to allow the IRS to contribute to the chaos, considering their recent record of abuses and mismanagement.

The American people deserve to be trusted with their own decision making when it comes to their lives, including their health care choices. The last thing anyone wants is to have an agency they are already afraid of to be granted more.

We thank you for offering this common-sense language and we urge all members of Congress to vote "yes" on H.R. 2009.

Sincerely,

DAVID WILLIAMS,
*President, Taxpayers
Protection Alliance.*
GROVER NORQUIST,
*President, Americans
for Tax Reform.*
JEFF MAZZELLA,
*President, Center for
Individual Freedom.*
CARRIE LUKAS,
*Managing Director,
Independent Wom-
en's Forum.*
SETON MOTLEY,
*President, Less Gov-
ernment.*
PETE SEPP,
*Executive Vice Presi-
dent, National Tax-
payers Union.*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, could I ask for the amount of time on both sides, please?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan has 8 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Georgia has 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would tell the gentleman that I have other speakers that may be coming, but at this point, I have no other speakers on the floor. I am prepared to close at any point.

Mr. LEVIN. Okay. We have other speakers. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), who is the ranking member on the Small Business Committee.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the bill before us today. Sadly, we find ourselves in another redundant and unproductive debate over the Affordable Care Act. The estimated cost of today's vote is over \$1 million, paid by hard-working taxpayers. But instead of focusing on jobs and economic growth, we're wasting time and money on denying health coverage to small businesses and their employees.

Not even half of the appropriations bills have been passed, and yet, Republicans continue their attempt to undermine health reform. This obsession must end. It is time to move on and start tackling the challenges the American people care about—jobs, jobs, jobs, the economy.

Blocking the IRS from implementing provisions of the Affordable Care Act does nothing to help our Nation's small businesses. Rather, today's bill will keep small employers from taking advantage of the small business health care tax credit, which has already helped over 360,000 small employers and 2 million workers.

This bill prevents these businesses from utilizing the 50 percent tax credit in the new SHOP exchanges next year. That is why today's vote is irresponsible and out of touch with American firms.

We must continue to ensure quality health coverage is available and uti-

lized by the businesses that are the cornerstone of the American economy.

I urge Members to vote "no."

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it's now my special privilege to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the person who led our efforts, and the health care reform is a testimony to her career, our leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and for his leadership of importance to the American people, the creation of jobs, growing our economy and, in the case of what is on the floor today, the 40th attempt—the 40th attempt—to harm the health and financial well-being of the American people.

Forty is a number that is fraught with meaning in the Bible: 40 hours, 40 days, 40 years in the desert, but it's fraught with nothing when it comes to overturning the Affordable Care Act, as they're trying to do for the 40th time today.

When our Republican colleagues vote for this bill, they will vote to put insurance companies back in charge of people's health. When they vote for this bill, they will be voting for an initiative that deprives patients of their rights, of making a preexisting condition a reason for discrimination. That's what a vote for this does.

That's the joy of the Affordable Care Act. No longer will being a woman be a preexisting condition. People with preexisting conditions can no longer be denied coverage. Annual or lifetime limits are eliminated.

□ 1130

Insurance companies must spend their money on insurance, and they must do it in a way that focuses on health care, not on CEO pay, advertising, and the rest. It's an 80-20 ratio. Many people in our country have received some of the money insurance companies have had to refund because they were spending too much on themselves and not enough on policyholders.

So here we are for the 40th time. What is really sad about it is the violence that it does to the health of the American people and to a policy that enables them to have prevention and wellness. It's about the health of America, not just the health care. What's sad about it is that for those 40 times we've lost the opportunity to bring a jobs bill to this floor—a jobs bill that is very needed—a jobs bill that says, Let's make it in America, manufacture in America, build the infrastructure of America, strengthen our communities with education and public safety.

Instead of even passing appropriations bills, the Republicans are on this aimless path of taking us into chaos as we go into August. In September, the moment of truth will be here. The fiscal year will end on September 30. Instead of preparing for that, the Republicans are, once again, on this fools' errand of making matters worse for the

American people, putting insurance companies in charge of people's health, and depriving patients of their rights.

This budget challenge that we have is a very serious one. We shouldn't even be leaving here today because we haven't done the work necessary to prepare us for the end of the fiscal year. Instead, we are wasting the taxpayers' time and money.

I urge our colleagues to vote "no" on this legislation. I urge the America people to insist that we get down to the people's business of job creation and to find a budget that will not destroy and question the full faith and credit of the United States of America; to find a budget that will create jobs, grow the economy, and reduce the deficit.

If we shut down government, as some on the Republican side have said, unless we repeal the Affordable Care Act, what does that mean to you? It means to you that the success of your 401(k) is in jeopardy. It means if you have mortgage interest payments, you will probably pay more. Your credit card bills will probably go up because of the increase in interest.

It's just not right for what it does. It does not understand the economic challenges faced by America's families who want jobs, want to educate their children, want to maintain their homes, and want to have secure pensions for the future. It's just silliness, and it does not deserve even the time we're taking on the floor, much less rise to the dignity of deserving a vote by Members of Congress.

I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as I think everybody knows, the two committees, Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means, work closely together, and as chairs, Mr. WAXMAN and I were able to, with others, work so closely.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking member on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is a do-nothing Congress. It is absolutely pathetic. There are millions of people unemployed. Are we working to create jobs for them? No. If they don't have jobs, we're not trying to help them. But what we're doing today for the 40th time is to make sure they can't get health insurance.

This is an obsession on the part of the Republicans. I was commenting on it the other day in committee, and I said there's such opposition that the law has become the Republicans' great white whale. They'll stop at nothing to kill it.

And so here we are with their 40th attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. I think it's a disgrace. Is this all we have to do—spend 40 separate times trying to repeal a law that is going to bring health care to millions of Americans who have been denied health care opportunities because of preexisting

conditions, because their employer doesn't provide it to them, or because they otherwise couldn't afford it? It will give people in the middle class choices. And with competition between choices of health insurance, the prices will drop, the quality will improve.

This whole health care bill was based on Republican ideas, including a requirement that everybody get health insurance. That was endorsed by The Heritage Foundation.

So I'm astounded that we're back here today and this is the last thing we're going to do before we go take our recess, our vacation, and go home and tell people, Sorry, we can't help you. We're trying again in the House of Representatives to repeal one bill that has been passed that can mean so much to so many.

I urge that we defeat this legislation.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT), the ranking member on the Health Subcommittee of our committee.

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, as I listened to Mr. WAXMAN, it's clear he was talking about obsession. And you might ask, Well, why is this happening here and what's going on?

This has happened before. This is the worst nightmare for the Republican Party. In 1964, the American Medical Association was flat out against the institution of Medicare. When I was in medical school, the president said, Boys, there isn't going to be any medicine in this country. We're having that socialized medicine come in. It's a terrible thing.

And you know what happened? They made the people so afraid that when they went out to enroll people in Medicare, people said, Well, I don't want any of that government medicine in my house. Look at Medicare today. Nobody on that side would dare take out Medicare because the American people found out that what they were told in the advertising campaign leading up to it was not true. And that's what you are getting here today—untruths.

Vote "no" on this.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will submit a letter from 22 organizations from around the country endorsing H.R. 2009, and I reserve the balance of my time.

AUGUST 1, 2013.

DEAR CONGRESSMEN: We, the undersigned organizations and free market leaders write in united support of House efforts this week to get the IRS out of Obamacare.

The House will consider a measure on Friday sponsored by Congressman Tom Price (R-Ga.) to remove the IRS from any role in the implementation of the Obamacare law.

It's a basic belief of most Americans that patients, families, and doctors—not IRS bureaucrats—should be making health care decisions. While this has always been the case, its importance has been heightened in recent

months by the uncovered political targeting by the IRS of Tea Party and other free market groups. The IRS should not be anywhere near people's medical decisions until this black cloud of political scandal has been lifted.

Unfortunately, the GAO reports that the IRS has no fewer than 47 powers to implement Obamacare. That's 47 too many. Allowing the IRS to enforce Obamacare is opening up the door to more abuse, more targeting, and more harassment of American citizens. The myriad of new taxes the IRS will impose under the guise of health care reform will destroy jobs, stifle economic growth, and impede medical innovation in this country.

With Obamacare coming fully online in 2014, now is the time to stop the IRS from becoming a full partner in our families' healthcare decisions. House efforts to prevent this from happening are welcome and all Members of Congress should support these efforts.

Sincerely,

Grover Norquist, Americans for Tax Reform; Dean Clancy, Freedom Works; Al Cardenas, American Conservative Union; Amy Kremer, Tea Party Express; Jenny Beth Martin, Tea Party Patriots; Heather Higgins, Independent Women's Voice; Steven J. Duffield, Crossroads GPS; Brandon Arnold, National Taxpayers Union; Colin Hanna, Let Freedom Ring; Jim Martin, 60 Plus Association; Grace-Marie Turner, Galen Institute; Phil Kerpen, American Commitment; Penny Nance, Concerned Women for America; Ken Hoagland, Restore America's Voice; John Tate, Campaign for Liberty; Peter Ferrara, National Center for Policy Analysis; Ari Winkour, Harbour League; Gregory T. Angelo, Log Cabin Republicans; Mark Schiller, MD, Doctor-Patient Medical Association; Betsy McCaughey, Ph.D, author of Beating Obamacare; Brian Baker, Ending Spending; David Wallace, Restore America's Mission.

(Signatures are for information purposes only).

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) has 2 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) has 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I've sat and listened to the debate this morning and heard a lot of the slogans that we hear on this repeated again and again and again. I would simply return to the point that I made earlier: for a family that makes \$40,000 a year, has two adults working, and two children, that doesn't get coverage at work, which is true for many, many Americans—maybe 35 million Americans have a situation something like that—the Affordable Care Act says that starting January 1, for about \$40 a week they can buy health insurance from a private insurance company as good as the Members of Congress have.

What is the plan from the other side, since they're repealing this? This bill

takes that away. What is the plan from the other side to provide for that family?

Now, they'll talk about bills they have introduced and letters they have written. There's not been one bill, one vote, one day that would answer that question. After a thousand days of the Republican majority, the American people eagerly await that answer.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself the balance of my time.

From the outset, I made clear my reaction to IRS mismanagement that called for relieving of duties of two people. But what the Republicans today are doing is using the IRS as a bootstrap to express their hatred of health care reform.

I want to say this and challenge anybody to refute it: assertions that the IRS will have access to personal health information are wrong and are deliberately misleading. The IRS will only receive routine information—name, address, family size, incomes, coverage status—needed to provide tax credits. That's it. The rest are falsehoods.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Again, it's important for folks to appreciate that the Republican goal in health care is to make certain that every single American has the highest quality health care. We simply believe it ought to be patient-centered health care. And my friends on the other side of the aisle talk about patient-centered health care, but what they support is health care with Washington making decisions. We believe patients and families and doctors ought to be making medical decisions.

Now, what have we heard in opposition to this piece of legislation today? We've heard that Republicans have no plan. Well, on the contrary, Mr. Speaker, we have multiple pieces of legislation. I, in fact, have H.R. 2300, which is a patient-centered bill that makes certain that everybody has affordable coverage; that they are able to have the financial feasibility to purchase the coverage that they want, not that the government forces them to buy. And portability is solved. You don't lose your insurance if you change your job or you lose your job. We solve the whole challenge of preexisting illnesses and injuries, but in a patient-centered way, not a way that the government forces you to purchase what they want you to purchase. And it would provide insurance for every single American.

Second, we've heard this isn't a responsible piece of legislation. Mr. Speaker, let me suggest that the American people think this is a responsible piece of legislation, where over 80 percent don't think the IRS ought to have a thing to do with their health care.

We've heard that this bill isn't going anywhere at all. Why do it? It's a futile attempt. Well, I'll remind my colleagues of seven pieces of legislation—bills passed in this House, bills passed

by the United States Senate, and signed into law by President Obama—that either repealed or defunded portions of his own health care law.

H.R. 4 repealed the small business paperwork mandate; H.R. 1473 cut \$2.2 billion from the "stealth public plan" and froze the IRS budget; H.R. 674 saved taxpayers \$13 billion by adjusting eligibility for ObamaCare programs; H.R. 2055 made more reductions to the Independent Payment Advisory Board and the IRS; H.R. 3630 slashed billions of dollars from ObamaCare slush funds; H.R. 4348 saved another \$670 million from the boondoggle, "the Louisiana Purchase," that was included in the original bill; and H.R. 8 repealed the unsustainable CLASS programs.

All of those repealed or changed portions of the Affordable Care Act signed into law by the President of the United States.

We've heard heart-wrenching stories from our friends on the other side about health challenges and illnesses. And, yes, Mr. Speaker, there are real challenges out there. As a physician, I can attest to that, having spent over 20 years taking care of patients. But the American people don't want Washington deciding what kind of health care they must have or can't have. We need patients and families and doctors making those medical decisions.

And then there's the preposterous assertion from the other side that Republicans don't like affordable care, quality care, accessible care. Nonsense, Mr. Speaker. Nonsense. What we want is the highest quality of care that respects the principles of affordability and accessibility and quality and choices and responsiveness and innovation. We simply want patients and families and doctors to be in charge of health care, not Washington, D.C., and not the IRS.

I urge support of H.R. 2009, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2009, the Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013. The IRS was granted 46 new powers in Obamacare including the collection of 21 new taxes, the distribution of 13 new subsidies, 6 new information collection responsibilities, and an additional 6 new powers to enforce compliance. As the Treasury Inspector General said earlier this year, "It is unprecedented in recent history, the amount of responsibility the IRS is being given in an area that most people don't think of as an IRS function."

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today will seek to rectify this situation and force this Congress to think of better options to reform our health system. Obamacare has given the American people the largest tax increase in our country's history and will take over 80 million hours annually to follow the law. This bill will get the IRS out of health care, thereby allow businesses to focus on creating jobs and succeeding as opposed to trying to comply with overreaching regulatory enforcement by the federal government, and stop the implementation of the misguided health care bill.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 322, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

□ 1145

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. NOLAN. I am opposed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Nolan moves to recommit the bill H.R. 2009 to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

SEC. 4. PROTECTING MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES FROM TAX INCREASES.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to alter, impact, delay, or weaken—

(1) section 1401 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that provides tax credits for middle class families (earning up to \$94,200 for a family of four) for the purchase of health insurance coverage in Exchanges; and

(2) section 1421 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that provides tax credits to small businesses (up to 50 percent of the cost of coverage for two years beginning in 2014; up to 35 percent for prior years) for the purchase of health insurance coverage for employees.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve a point of order against the motion to recommit.

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

The gentleman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes on his motion to recommit.

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, my final amendment would protect important tax credits and tax breaks for middle-income families and for small businesses. It will not kill or send this bill back to committee. It will allow us to proceed with final passage, should it pass.

Now, to the heart of what this is really all about, I thought our colleague from California (Mr. THOMPSON) here a few minutes ago characterized it quite well when he said this should be called the "40th Waste of Taxpayers Time and Money Act," not an alternative to the Affordable Care Act.

The fact is that the Republican opposition here is engaged in their 40th political attempt to undo the Affordable Care Act and offering us no alternatives to the time when 46 million Americans have no insurance, when health care and insurance rates were rising at a rate of 20 percent per year.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, "no" is not a plan; "no" is not an answer.

President Harry Truman was fond of saying—and forgive me for quoting him

directly, but he used to like to say, "Any jackass can tear down a barn, but it takes a carpenter to build one." I'm challenging my colleagues: Are you here to tear down the barn or are you here to build one?

Mr. Speaker, I feel compelled to ask, are you really serious when you come before us here and you say you really, truly want to increase taxes on families and small businesses, as this bill would do? Are you really serious when you say you want to take away from students the right to stay on their parents' insurance policy while they're struggling with the difficulties of the increased cost of education? The American people don't want that. What is your plan?

Mr. Speaker, are you really serious when you say you want to deny people with preexisting conditions the right to have health insurance? The American public doesn't want that. What is your plan?

Are you really serious when you want to continue this de facto notion that women somehow, by definition, are living with preexisting conditions and are charged more for the exact same policies as men would pay for? The American people are not. What is your plan?

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues, are you really serious when you want to vote to eliminate free prevention care, which saves lives, which helps save costs in our medical system? The American people are not. What is your plan?

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues, are you really serious when you say you want to remove the cap on insurance companies' liabilities, the very cap that forces people with serious accidents and illnesses into bankruptcy? The American people don't want that. What is your plan?

Last but not least, Mr. Speaker, are you prepared to vote to deny senior citizens the relief from the increased costs in pharmaceuticals as a result of that doughnut hole? The seniors in this country are not. Again I ask you, what is your plan?

Mr. Speaker, that's what's at heart here. We have had 40 attempts to repeal this bill, and we haven't seen one single plan offered forward here.

This is a waste of time. Let us get serious. Let us start to show some bipartisanship. And let's start with it here today by passing my amendment.

Mr. Speaker, it's no secret; the public has weighed in on this. This Congress is acknowledged by all parties and all spectrums as the most unproductive Congress in the history of this country. That's shameful. Polls show us 25 points behind cockroaches in popularity, 23 percentage points behind—what was the last one?—oh, root canals. We're just slightly ahead of Genghis Khan and the Communist Party in popularity.

It's time that we put an end to this nonsense, put this Congress to work, postpone/cancel this recess. Let's put an end to this nonsense, get America

working again, and get this country working again.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my point of order and seek time in opposition to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The point of order is withdrawn.

The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just say there's nothing in this bill that prevents middle class families or individuals from receiving subsidies to which they're entitled. So I think it's just important to understand what the facts are. But what we want to do is keep the IRS out of control of your health care. Talk about unpopular items.

Look, businesses have gotten a waiver from the mandate—1,300 organizations, businesses, unions have gotten waivers from this law. What about individuals? What about American families?

If you want to keep the IRS out of control of your health care, vote "no" on this motion to recommit.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is offered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was 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 passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 186, noes 230, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 446]

AYES—186

Andrews	Connolly	Gallego	Napolitano	Scott, David
Barber	Conyers	Garamendi	Neal	Serrano
Barrow (GA)	Cooper	Garcia	Negrete McLeod	Sewell (AL)
Bass	Costa	Grayson	Nolan	Shea-Porter
Beatty	Courtney	Green, Al	O'Rourke	Sherman
Becerra	Crowley	Green, Gene	Owens	Sinema
Bera (CA)	Cuellar	Grijalva	Pascarell	Sires
Bishop (GA)	Cummings	Gutiérrez	Pastor (AZ)	Slaughter
Bishop (NY)	Davis (CA)	Hahn	Payne	Smith (WA)
Blumenauer	Davis, Danny	Hanabusa	Peters (CA)	Speier
Bonamici	DeFazio	Hastings (FL)	Peters (MI)	Swalwell (CA)
Brady (PA)	DeGette	Heck (WA)	Peterson	Takano
Bralley (IA)	Delaney	Higgins	Pingree (ME)	Thompson (CA)
Brown (FL)	DeLauro	Himes	Pocan	Thompson (MS)
Brownley (CA)	DeBene	Hinojosa	Polis	Tierney
Bustos	Deutch	Honda	Price (NC)	Titus
Butterfield	Dingell	Hoyer	Quigley	Tonko
Capps	Doggett	Huffman	Rahall	Tsongas
Capuano	Duckworth	Israel	Rangel	Van Hollen
Cárdenas	Edwards	Jackson Lee	Roybal-Allard	Vargas
Carney	Ellison	Jeffries	Ruiz	Veasey
Carson (IN)	Engel	Johnson (GA)	Ruppersberger	Vela
Cartwright	Enyart	Johnson, E. B.	Rush	Velázquez
Castor (FL)	Eshoo	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)	Visclosky
Castro (TX)	Esty	Keating	Sánchez, Linda	Walz
Chu	Farr	Kelly (IL)	T.	Wasserman
Cicilline	Fattah	Kennedy	Sanchez, Loretta	Schultz
Clarke	Foster	Kildee	Sarbanes	Schultz
Clay	Frankel (FL)	Kilmer	Schakowsky	Watt
Cohen	Gabbard	Kind	Schiff	Waxman
			Schneider	Welch
			Schrader	Wilson (FL)
			Schwartz	Yarmuth
			Scott (VA)	

NOES—230

Aderholt	Foxx	Massie
Alexander	Franks (AZ)	McCarthy (CA)
Amash	Frelinghuysen	McCaul
Amodel	Gardner	McClintock
Bachmann	Garrett	McHenry
Bachus	Gerlach	McIntyre
Barletta	Gibbs	McKeon
Barr	Gibson	McKinley
Barton	Gingrey (GA)	McMorris
Benishek	Gohmert	Rodgers
Bentivolio	Goodlatte	Meadows
Bilirakis	Gosar	Meehan
Bishop (UT)	Gowdy	Messer
Black	Granger	Mica
Blackburn	Graves (GA)	Miller (MI)
Bonner	Graves (MO)	Miller, Gary
Boustany	Griffin (AR)	Mullin
Brady (TX)	Griffith (VA)	Mulvaney
Bridenstine	Grimm	Murphy (PA)
Brooks (AL)	Guthrie	Neugebauer
Brooks (IN)	Hall	Noem
Broun (GA)	Hanna	Nugent
Buchanan	Harper	Nunes
Bucshon	Harris	Nunnelee
Burgess	Hartzler	Olson
Calvert	Hastings (WA)	Palazzo
Camp	Heck (NV)	Paulsen
Cantor	Hensarling	Pearce
Capito	Holding	Perry
Carter	Hudson	Petri
Cassidy	Huelskamp	Pittenger
Chabot	Huizenga (MI)	Pitts
Chaffetz	Hultgren	Poe (TX)
Coble	Hunter	Pompeo
Coffman	Hurt	Posey
Cole	Issa	Price (GA)
Collins (NY)	Jenkins	Radel
Conaway	Johnson (OH)	Reed
Cook	Johnson, Sam	Reichert
Cotton	Jones	Renacci
Cramer	Jordan	Ribble
Crawford	Joyce	Rice (SC)
Crenshaw	Kelly (PA)	Rigell
Culberson	King (IA)	Roby
Daines	King (NY)	Roe (TN)
Davis, Rodney	Kingston	Rogers (AL)
Denham	Kinzinger (IL)	Rogers (KY)
Dent	Kline	Rogers (MI)
DeSantis	Labrador	Rohrabacher
DesJarlais	LaMalfa	Rokita
Diaz-Balart	Lamborn	Rooney
Duffy	Lance	Ros-Lehtinen
Duncan (SC)	Lankford	Roskam
Duncan (TN)	Latham	Ross
Ellmers	Latta	Rothfus
Farenthold	LoBiondo	Royce
Fincher	Long	Runyan
Fitzpatrick	Lucas	Ryan (WI)
Fleischmann	Luetkemeyer	Salmon
Fleming	Lummis	Sanford
Flores	Maloney, Sean	Scalise
Forbes	Marchant	Schock
Fortenberry	Marino	Schweikert

Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southernland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman

NOT VOTING—17

Campbell
Cleaver
Clyburn
Collins (GA)
Doyle
Fudge

□ 1216

Messrs. NUGENT, DENHAM, SANFORD, and BISHOP of Utah changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. VISCLOSKY and HUFFMAN changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 232, noes 185, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 447]

AYES—232

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Benishke
Bentivolio
Billirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Buechson
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer

Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie

Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—185

Andrews
Barber
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carnson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DeBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi

Massie
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo

Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southernland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)

Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
NOT VOTING—16
Campbell
Cleaver
Clyburn
Collins (GA)
Doyle
Fudge
Herrera Beutler
Holt
Horsford
McCarthy (NY)
Miller (FL)
Miller, George
Pallone
Perlmutter
Richmond
Young (FL)

□ 1224

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker: I was unavoidably absent during the week of July 29, 2013. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Rollcall No. 419: Gallego of Texas Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 420: Young of Alaska Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 421: Grayson of Florida Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 422: McClintock of California Amendment No. 4, “no”;
Rollcall No. 423: First Hastings of Florida Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 424: Second Hastings of Florida Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 425: Third Hastings of Florida Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 426: Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1911—Smarter Solutions for Students Act, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 427: H.R. 850 Nuclear Iran Prevention Act, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 428: Waxman of California Amendment No. 1, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 429: Connolly of Virginia Amendment No. 3, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 430: Murphy of Pennsylvania Amendment No. 6, “nay”;
Rollcall No. 431: Motion to Recommit with Instructions for H.R. 1582, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 432: Final Passage H.R. 1582—Energy Consumers Relief Act, “nay”;
Rollcall No. 433: Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2879, H.R. 367, and H.R. 2009, “nay”;
Rollcall No. 434: H. Res. 322—Rule Providing for consideration of H.R. 367, H.R. 2009, and H.R. 2879, “nay”;
Rollcall No. 435: H.R. 1897—Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2013, “yea”;
Rollcall No. 436: H.R. 2879—Stop Government Abuse Act, “nay”;
Rollcall No. 437: Scalise of Louisiana Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 438: Smith of Missouri Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 439: Latham of Iowa Amendment, “no”;
Rollcall No. 440: Nadler of New York Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 441: Johnson of Georgia Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 442: Jackson-Lee of Texas Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 443: Moore of Wisconsin Amendment, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 444: Motion to Recommit With Instructions for HR 367, “aye”;
Rollcall No. 445: Final Passage of HR 367, “no”;

Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz

Rollcall No. 446: Motion to Recommit with Instructions for HR 2009, "aye";

Rollcall No. 447: Final Passage of HR 2009, "no";

BENEFITS OF NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT FOR PENNSYLVANIANS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, I have shared multiple accounts of testimony delivered before the bipartisan Natural Gas Caucus during a field hearing last week in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. While I have discussed the extensive job growth and revenue increases for the Commonwealth, today I rise to share the benefits to property owners who have leases above the vast Marcellus natural gas play.

Between 2008 and 2010, landowners in two rural, northern tier counties in Pennsylvania earned over \$550 million. As of July 2013, the lifetime royalties for wells already drilled in these counties are projected to exceed \$7 billion. Property values in these counties have increased to a level greater than 47 percent of the national average increase between 2006 and 2012, which was during the height of the recession.

Perhaps most importantly, there are now, more than ever, greater prospects for future generations of Pennsylvanians. Natural gas development has allowed Pennsylvania's young workers to find high-paying, family sustaining jobs in the Keystone State, where they can continue to live and build stronger communities.

□ 1230

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Safe Climate Caucus to once again direct our attention to the serious threat of climate change. Republicans continue to ignore this issue and instead waste our valuable time once again attempting to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Yesterday, our Interior appropriations markup ended up with no real timetable for when we can finish this bill. Worse yet, the funding levels in the Interior bill were absolutely irresponsible. The Republican bill would abandon our commitment to the environment, to our national parks, to the public health and safety, and most important to climate change mitigation programs.

It is sad and shameful that we are about to adjourn for a 5-week district work period leaving critical business to create jobs, pass comprehensive immigration reform, and fight climate change.

The time to act is now. I encourage my colleagues to begin to address this issue right away.

PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION

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

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, during my time in the military, I had the privilege of serving as an assistant professor of American Government at the United States Military Academy at West Point. The opportunity to educate young minds about our democracy, our Constitution, our exceptional way of life was one of the greatest privileges I ever had.

The continuation of our Nation relies upon the engagement of an informed citizenry. In a time when education funding is being stretched thin at the Federal, State, and local levels, civics and history are often among the first subjects to be pared down or even eliminated.

I'm proud of the work of my colleagues such as Representative HONDA and Representative COLE and what they're doing to promote civic education. One of my own constituents, Jonathan Estrin from Columbia County, has been helping them. I'm proud of him, as well.

Though it is the role of the State and local governments to establish curricula, I support Federal efforts to assist States and localities who wish to empower their students by civic education.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure future generations come to learn about our Nation's history and remain engaged as citizens.

GIVE ME A BREAK

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, reportedly the Republican leadership has drafted a bill that doubles the level of cuts to food stamps over what was included in the farm bill that failed to pass this House in June.

That's right: it doubles the cuts. More than 50 million people are hungry in America, 17 million are kids, and the Republicans think cutting \$40 billion from the most important program that prevents mass hunger in America is somehow a good thing? Give me a break.

They have already tried to cut \$20 billion from food stamps. They failed. Any rational person would say they went too far, we need to compromise. Instead, the Republican leadership decided to double down on the crazy.

If House Republicans insist on moving forward with this awful proposal, I will fight it with every ounce of energy I can muster. We should not, we must not, we cannot allow this mean-spirited, cold-hearted proposal to pass.

REINS ACT

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I held a tele-townhall meeting and had the opportunity to talk with several thousand Montanans about the House's efforts to bring needed accountability to Washington and the regulatory burdens that are hurting Montana families and job creators.

Montanans are tired and frustrated by the EPA's ever-changing rules and unreasonable compliance costs. The status quo is not acceptable. That's why I'm proud to have voted in support of the REINS Act, which will bring much needed accountability to the regulatory process.

This isn't a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. This is about doing the right thing for the American people and the future of our country.

It's time to rein in Washington's overbearing, costly regulations and provide Montana families, business owners, and hardworking taxpayers with the relief they deserve.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, in an op-ed in The New York Times this morning, four former EPA administrators appeal for action on climate change, stating:

The United States must move now on substantive steps to curb climate change.

I think this House could learn a thing or two from the authors of this article.

These former EPA administrators worked for four Republican Presidents: Nixon, Reagan, George Bush, and George W. Bush. They say that "there is no longer any credible scientific debate" about climate change, and they also point out that our window for action is shrinking.

They say they support the actions that the President is now taking under the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon pollution, and they call on Congress to start the overdue debate about what bigger steps are needed domestically and internationally.

They conclude with this very powerful statement:

The only uncertainty about our warming world is how bad the changes will get, and how soon. What is most clear is that there is no time to waste.

HOLDING ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER ACCOUNTABLE

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address Attorney General