

compromise on this. How do you extend a hand to a clenched fist? You cannot compromise when the other side is not willing to accept the fact that the Affordable Care Act is the law of the land. It has been debated. It has been voted on. It has been found to be constitutional. Let's just get on with the American people's business.

I think that if we all ran our households and our businesses the way this Congress is now functioning, simply put, it would be unacceptable. We know better. We know that it's irresponsible and reckless to make the American people pay when we don't get our way. We were sent to Congress to represent something bigger than ourselves. We were sent to represent the American people, all of the people, all Americans, not just the privileged few.

We represent every military family and every veteran, from the homeless veteran in Birmingham, Alabama, to those serving overseas right now. We represent every child in this great country of ours, from the child who will eat free lunch today because of the SNAP program, to the child here in D.C. who is enrolled in the Head Start program. All Americans. We were elected to be representatives. We need to start earning the title of being a representative by representing all of the people. It's unacceptable that we are in this Chamber while the rest of government is shut down. It is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that you bring to this House floor a clean funding bill unencumbered by unreasonable amendments. Bring a clean funding bill to this floor, and I guarantee you that both Republicans and Democrats would pass that bill and we would open back up the Federal Government.

It's important that we put our partisan politics aside and truly start representing the American people that sent us here. Let's be representative of all the people.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to address my colleagues today. Indeed, being in the middle of a government shutdown is something we did not want, and my colleagues and I on our side of the aisle continue to invite the Senate colleagues and their conferees to sit at the table with us and negotiate. We want to make certain that we work out the issues of our Nation's fiscal health.

We have to remember currently we're borrowing \$2 billion, \$3 billion a day to keep the doors open. This is something we cannot do. It is not fair. It is not fair to future generations. It is not fair to our children and grandchildren. It is not fair to the small business people who have dreams of building a business, watching that business grow,

watching those dreams come true. It is not fair to the future of their families. To our Senate colleagues, we do continue to ask them to join us and to negotiate these issues.

There's a lot that's been said about ObamaCare, and some say, Well, it doesn't have anything to do with the budget. You know what, Mr. Speaker? It has everything to do with the budget because of the amount of growth that is taking place in this program. I think we all remember that originally ObamaCare was to be a health insurance access program. Let's give a pathway for uninsured Americans to have access to health insurance, a laudable goal, something that there was agreement on. Where it ran off the rails, if you will, was in the projections of the cost—far exceeding what anybody thought it would be—when it began to make \$600 billion worth of cuts in Medicare, taking money out of Medicare, money that the Federal Government is taking out of wage earners' paychecks and putting it into the pot that says "ObamaCare" and using that money to redirect, to stand up the ObamaCare program.

There's a problem with that. There's a problem when there are mandates that are made on our hospitals, on our physicians that are paying them less. There's a problem when there is \$819.3 billion of new taxes specifically embedded in the ObamaCare legislation, the law, \$819.3 billion worth of new taxes that are going to come out of the paychecks of workers and be put into the ObamaCare pot to implement that law.

The impact is dramatic. Even though the President has given 1,200 waivers and special favors, even though he's chosen to make 19 delays of the program for people and entities that have gone to him and said, Hey, we would like a delay or we would like a waiver—the list goes on and on—it is individuals, like my constituents, who are dealing with the full impact of this.

Here are a couple of the emails that I have received:

Marsha, please stop ObamaCare from happening.

This is a small businessowner in one of my cities:

It was great for me to have insurance through the CoverTN program for small business. It works great for me and others. It's affordable. There's no way I can afford ObamaCare. My insurance cost is going up five times more than what I pay now. We cannot afford this program.

A small business owner who went to a check-cashing facility, got \$400, started a business, and now has five locations, 45 employees, wants to grow this business, and cannot because with a 40-hour workweek, 50 employees, it would cause him to have to shutter the doors of his five locations and do something different for his 45 employees. That is the impact that this law is having on a regular daily basis.

Another constituent with a child with type 1 diabetes, they have utilized their employer's reimbursement ac-

count, \$5,000 that was there. Now that's going to be limited to \$2,500. They are looking at how unaffordable the Affordable Care Act is going to be for them.

The list goes on and on.

#### GARRETT LEE SMITH MEMORIAL ACT REAUTHORIZATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Dr. BILL CASIDY, a Republican from Louisiana, and I, introduced a bipartisan bill, H.R. 2734, the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Reauthorization Act, on July 19 of this year. This legislation would reauthorize the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act to help State and local governments and universities to continue to provide and develop suicide prevention programs. This current bill is budget neutral and would revise and extend provisions of the original act signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2004. It is named for former-Senator Gordon Smith, Republican of Oregon's 22-year-old son Garrett whose life was ended in September of 2003.

Every year, over 38,000 Americans die by suicide, and many more are treated for self-inflicted injuries that result from suicide attempts. As you may know, suicide still remains the second leading cause of death for our adolescents and young adults between the ages of 10 and 24, and results in 4,800 lives lost each year according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Also, the same agency reported that youths in grades 9 through 12, in public and private schools in the United States, found that 15 percent of students reported seriously considering suicide, 11 percent reported creating a plan, and 7 percent reported trying to take their own life. The 2010 American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment II noted that 45.6 percent of the students surveyed reported feeling that things were hopeless and 30 percent reported feeling depressed.

The Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Reauthorization grant program has assisted 35 tribes, 45 States, and 85 institutions of higher education to develop suicide prevention and intervention programs, which are often the first line of defense for those with this troubling disease of mental illness concerns, who are distraught and aren't certain about what to do.

Again, H.R. 2734 is budget neutral, and I come to the floor to ask all of my colleagues to cosponsor the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act. We can disagree on some things, but I don't think we need to disagree on this.

Please, sign up as a cosponsor.