

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, America is over 6 weeks into the ObamaCare rollout, and things are just a mess. Folks are still having problems signing up. But even more painful are the letters people are receiving, canceling their health insurance plans. Families and individuals are being forced into different and, oftentimes, more expensive plans.

Recently, I asked folks to let me know how their premiums were being affected. One person contacted me that their premiums went up \$200 a month. Another family contacted me that their policy was canceled, and their premium is going up \$740 per month.

The President promised, from the beginning, if you like your health care plan, you will be able to keep your health care plan, period. But that has turned out not to be the case, and he knew it all along.

ObamaCare has many flaws, but forcing people off their plans when they were promised they could keep them is really starting to hit home now. That is why I strongly support H.R. 3350, the Keep Your Health Plan Act. The legislation would allow health care plans on the individual market to remain available so people could have the option to keep their current health insurance if they want to.

I still believe the best path forward is to get rid of ObamaCare, but for now, we should support this bill to help hardworking Americans keep their health insurance.

SUPER TYPHOON HAIYAN

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

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my condolences to the thousands of families both in the Philippines and here in the United States who have lost loved ones due to Super Typhoon Haiyan, the deadliest natural disaster in the history of this region.

I proudly represent the largest population of Filipino Americans in the continental United States, and many of them are in anguish right now wanting to know whether or not their loved ones are still alive. The question that some may ask is, Well, why should we help?

Well, there are the obvious humanitarian reasons, but more importantly, we must never forget that in World War II, President Roosevelt sought to have Filipinos take arms and fight for us—some 250,000 of them—during World War II. We must help.

We have sent the USS *George Washington*, which has arrived today. Seven other ships are on their way. There are C-130s and Ospreys that have also been put in operation.

The gentleman from California, Congressman HONDA, and I have introduced a resolution, and I hope the House will

take it up swiftly, seeking support for the Filipino people and providing the aid they need.

□ 1230

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE LAW

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

Mr. BENISHEK. Madam Speaker, I am holding a copy of a letter that one of my constituents received informing him that his current health care plan—a plan that he was satisfied with and that he was able to afford—is being canceled, thanks to regulations imposed by the President's health care law.

Thousands of letters like this one have gone out to hardworking citizens in northern Michigan.

I asked my constituents to reach out to me about their experiences so I could hear firsthand about the impact of this disastrous overhaul. I received over 200 responses in a matter of days.

Patrick from Cheboygan will see his annual health insurance bill rise by over \$6,000 on January 1, 2014. Russell from Amasa was finally able to log onto the President's Web site after 14 straight days of trying, only to discover that the closest equivalent option for his plan will be far too expensive for him to afford.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in order to repeal this disastrous health care law and work together in order to promote affordable, patient-centered reforms.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to once again speak about the issue of climate change that is affecting every country, but as the World Bank has found, the impacts are not distributed equally. It is likely that the poorest nations on Earth will be the hardest hit.

The U.N. ranks the Philippines as the country that is third most vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of its geography, its poverty, and the state of its infrastructure.

As all of my colleagues know, one of the most powerful storms on record tore through Asia this past week—and the Philippines in particular. In the wake of Typhoon Haiyan, many thousands are dead and hundreds of thousands more are homeless and desperate for help.

As we learn more about the devastation, I ask my colleagues to pay careful attention to the words of Yeb Sano, head of the Philippines delegation to the U.N. climate talks:

What my country is going through as a result of this extreme climate event is mad-

ness . . . Typhoons such as Haiyan and its impacts represent a sobering reminder to the international community that we cannot afford to procrastinate on climate action.

He is right.

The Philippines tragedy is the latest wake-up call on climate change. So let's wake up.

OBAMACARE CANCELATIONS

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

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, how many times did we hear the President promise the American people that if they liked their health care plan, they could keep their health care plan?

It doesn't matter how many times, Madam Speaker, you say something if it simply isn't true.

The fact is that Americans all across this country are getting letters from their insurance companies telling them their plans have been canceled. These are moms, dads, students, seniors, people who work diligently and who should be able to count on their health insurance when they need it.

What does ObamaCare offer them? Maybe they lose their plan altogether. Maybe their rates are going up. Maybe they can't visit the doctors and hospitals they have been using for years.

Madam Speaker, this has happened.

I urge victims to speak out. Go to the House Republican Web site at gop.gov and share your story.

VALLEY'S FIRST HONOR FLIGHT

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of our valley's first Honor Flight.

Recently, my colleagues, Representatives VALADAO and NUNES, and I honored the service of San Joaquin Valley veterans—as Tom Brokaw noted, perhaps America's Greatest Generation. These 69 men took off from Fresno and landed here in our Nation's Capital to see the monuments to their service to our country, most of them for the first time. In their youth, these men bravely but humbly answered their Nation's call.

Decades later, our first San Joaquin Valley Honor Flight came to Washington, where they witnessed the changing of the guard and remembered those of their fellow soldiers who did not make it home.

I also want to thank Congressmen HALL and DINGELL, who shared stories with them.

This forever grateful Nation is better for the men's sacrifices and the lives they led when they returned home to their farms, their storefronts, and their practices throughout the Valley to build a better life for themselves and our Nation.

I want to thank you for allowing us to share their experience and to show our gratitude for a debt which we can never fully repay.

FOR RUTHANN: PASS THE KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the promises upon which ObamaCare was built are crumbling.

Ruthann from Hickory, North Carolina, is a healthy 61-year-old. Last month, she received this letter from her insurance provider:

Dear Ruthann,

Due to Affordable Care Act regulations, your current . . . medical plan will no longer be offered for 2014 . . . The monthly premium for your new plan will be \$738.05.

Ruthann is right to be frustrated by this news.

Today, she pays \$396 each month for a plan with a lower deductible that covers the services she needs. Paying \$350 more each month is out of the question for Ruthann and her family.

Her next best option under ObamaCare is to pay \$510 a month for a higher deductible plan that will force her to pay out of pocket for some of the basic tests and procedures her current insurance provides.

Ruthann says:

In effect, I am now relegated to a policy that will only be helpful in case of a catastrophic illness resulting in hospitalization.

How is that anything resembling "affordable care?"

AID TO THE PHILIPPINES

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reaffirm the solidarity between the United States and the Philippines at this tragic time.

As the people of the Philippines rebuild their infrastructure, aid their injured, and mourn their deceased, the U.S. must remain a beacon of international humanitarian leadership.

Since the landfall of Typhoon Haiyan on November 8, 2103, the United States Government has provided over \$20 million in immediate humanitarian assistance, shipping vital necessities like shelter, water, hygiene kits, plastic sheeting, and over 55 metric tons of emergency food provisions to Tacloban City and other devastated regions.

This aid is desperately needed. The typhoon has impacted 8 million Filipinos and taken the lives of nearly 3,400 people—a number expected to rise.

The tragedy has also touched the 17,000 people of Filipino heritage living in my district in Queens, New York. To them, I offer unwavering support and an unflinching resolve to do everything possible to help those affected overseas.

GET GOVERNMENT OUT OF THE WAY AND PUT AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, Americans want Congress to support policies that help put our Nation back to work. Creating jobs is the key to improving our economy.

However, too often, government stands in the way of job creation by imposing costly regulations on businesses and municipalities, creating uncertainty and hindering job growth.

I recently visited a wastewater treatment facility in my district. While there, I learned that new EPA mandates, specifically on wet weather wastewater treatment, will increase costs on Johnson County, Kansas, ratepayers by 25 percent.

New EPA regulations on an energy plant in Kansas City, Kansas, will force the board of public utilities to make modifications—\$250 million in costs—resulting in a 15 to 20 percent monthly increase in the average electric bill to consumers, families, and businesses in Wyandotte County, who are already feeling the crunch of hard economic times.

These regulations are essentially hidden taxes on Kansas families, many of whom are already pinching pennies to pay their bills.

Madam Speaker, regulations do not create jobs. Let's get government out of the way and let's put Americans back to work.

HONORING COUNCILWOMAN MAXINE HERRING PARKER

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

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to the life and legacy of Birmingham City Council President Maxine Herring Parker, who passed away suddenly on Tuesday, November 12, 2013.

Councilwoman Parker was the epitome of grace, class, and firm yet gentle leadership. With her signature flower lapels to accentuate her immaculate appearance, this soft-spoken leader personified womanhood while serving as a great source of strength for her family and community.

Her love of family was second only to her love of her constituents in Birmingham City Council District 4. Through her 8-year tenure on the city council in Birmingham, Alabama, Councilwoman Parker was best known for her advocacy for environmental justice on behalf of her constituents in north Birmingham. In 2011, as a result of her tireless advocacy, the Environmental Protection Agency began its first major intervention in the area.

Today, that environmental cleanup still exists.

On behalf of our Nation, the State of Alabama, and the city of Birmingham, I am honored to pay tribute to the life and legacy of this phenomenal woman. She was indeed one of the most passionate community servants of her time. Let us all commit to continuing Councilwoman Parker's legacy of passion and concern for others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Birmingham City Council President Maxine Herring Parker.

AID TO THE PHILIPPINES

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

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am continuing the mission of mercy that started right after the typhoon hit the Philippines.

Madam Speaker, I am here to express my gratitude to the President of the United States of America. I just heard him speak of how the United States would do all that it can to help the people of the Philippines.

I am also grateful to the members of my community. We have approximately 40,000 persons of Filipino ancestry living in the Houston area. A good many of them are persons that I represent. I am honored to tell you that they are working tirelessly to do all that they can to help their brothers and sisters in the Philippines.

These are difficult times, but I am honored to say it is my belief that, with our help, we will be able to help the people of the Philippines get through this tragic circumstance.

There are two resolutions. H. Res. 404 is sponsored by Members ENGEL and ROYCE, ranking member and chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. H. Res. 408 is sponsored by Members SPEIER and HONDA. I want to compliment them for what they have done.

IN SUPPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in continued support of the Affordable Care Act and the promise of high quality, affordable health care for all.

Republicans and right-wing media are obsessed with problems about healthcare.gov. This law is more than just a Web site. It is affordable, quality health insurance for everyone. The majority of Americans who purchase their insurance purchase it outside of the individual market plan. Those individuals who purchase through their employers' offerings will suffer a price increase if the Upton legislation, which will be coming before us shortly,