

SUPPORTING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE: LET SENIORS KEEP THE PLANS THEY DEPEND ON

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I hear from seniors in my district every day that they are very pleased with their Medicare Advantage plans but are greatly concerned about the recently announced program cuts caused by ObamaCare. These cuts will result in higher out-of-pocket costs and benefit reductions. These cuts will be especially hard hitting on the 40 percent of Medicare Advantage enrollees who earn \$20,000 a year or less. Some plans are already cutting doctors that were previously available to Medicare Advantage beneficiaries.

This is only the tip of the iceberg. Many seniors are only now hearing about these cuts. The larger problem is that most of the cuts to Medicare Advantage are all back loaded in ObamaCare—the worst is yet to come. I call on the administration to give immediate relief to our seniors and allow them to keep the Medicare Advantage plans that they depend on every day.

□ 1215

PASS IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to bring real comprehensive immigration reform to this House floor.

This week, the House will consider the ENFORCE Act, which would effectively force the deportation of our Nation's Dreamers. The Dreamers are the young people of this country, children of immigrants who were brought to this country when they were very young and have grown up loving this country just like you or I.

Forcing the President's hand in this way is yet another way of placing politics ahead of people. The President has granted deferred action status for so many of these Dreamers because of the inaction of this House.

Now my Republican colleagues are trying to take away the President's ability to help these young Americans; young Americans such as Laura Nunez, a Dreamer whom I met last month when my office helped her to obtain her deferred action status. Her family came to the United States from Mexico when she was just 7 years old. Today, Laura lives in Wilmington, California, and continues her education at LAUSD. America is Laura's home, and she is just one of 1.4 million Dreamers who need action from this House, not more politics.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues, please, let's do real comprehensive immigration reform now.

GET WASHINGTON OUT OF THE WAY

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask a simple question: Are we willing to accept America's economy as a new normal? Is America to accept a growth rate of only 2.4 percent every year? Are we to accept 3.8 million of our fellow Americans being stuck without jobs for 27 weeks or more?

I say that is simply unacceptable. Americans deserve better.

House Republicans have a plan to grow our economy and get more Americans back to work. We want to increase opportunity and help Americans keep more of the money they earn. Step number one is getting Washington out of the way. If Washington will end its job-killing policies, everyday Americans will do what they have always done—strive and work to success and prosperity.

SEPARATION OF POWERS

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to address the issue of separation of powers. I do think that the administration is entirely in the right when it implements, through the Environmental Protection Agency, the authority given to it by the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act.

I do have some concern, though, that the legislative branch continually seems to cede the power of the purse granted to it by the Constitution; in other words, the appropriations process to the executive branch, which obviously would like to fund its spending priorities, many of which I don't disagree with.

What I am most concerned with in regard to this separation of powers was cited in a New York Times editorial today, and that is the fact that two successive Presidents have now absolved the Central Intelligence Agency for its conduct with regard to illegal detention, rendition, torture, and fruitless harsh interrogation of terrorism suspects. I don't care about Khalid Sheikh Mohammad's pain, frankly, but that is not the point. The point is that we have a responsibility in the legislative branch to oversee the conduct of our Intelligence Committees.

When the chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence in the Senate says that the CIA improperly searched computers that were her committee staff members' computers, that is wrong. The entire legislative branch should stand behind her in upholding our responsibilities as the legislative branch, an equal branch under the Constitution.

CREATING JOBS AMERICANS NEED

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, far too many of our fellow Americans, my fellow Texans, continue struggling in this economy; 3.8 million Americans have been out of work for 27 weeks or more.

Americans and Texans have had enough of this sluggish economy, and massive government overreach is only making things worse. We need to rein in Washington so our economy can grow, so we can create more jobs, and so more people can take home more of their hard-earned money.

House Republicans have never lost our laser focus on creating the jobs America needs. We are committed to real solutions to get our country back to work.

PASS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak against the misguided, anti-immigration bills being considered in the House today.

The ENFORCE Act would challenge the executive order that halts the deportation of young people who are studying and working to become contributing members of our society. This is another attack on immigrant communities by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. It is proof that their actions don't match their rhetoric. They want the Latino community's support, but they refuse to allow a vote on comprehensive immigration reform. Instead of working to keep hard-working families together, they are punishing communities by pushing misguided legislation.

To my Republican colleagues: you can't have it both ways. The facts are simple. Passing comprehensive immigration reform would grow our economy by \$1.4 trillion and reduce our deficit by \$850 billion. You can't just say you support Latinos, Asians, and other immigration communities. You have to do something about it. You have to walk the walk.

Here is some free advice: if you don't want an empty conference room when you are attempting minority outreach, then pass comprehensive immigration reform.

ENERGY SECURITY AND JOBS

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

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, you know, back home, folks don't think we find areas of agreement. I have only