

Americans can't keep their plans even if they like them. Families are being forced to pay more for their health care insurance. Women are unable to stay with their doctors despite the President's promise. Seniors are facing cuts to their hard-earned Medicare benefits. Businesses are afraid to hire more workers.

House Republicans have a plan to get Washington out of the way—to create an America that works—and addressing these problems is a great place to start.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AGENDA

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

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, I was proud to host a women's economic agenda event at the Young Women's Leadership Academy in San Antonio, Texas. It was a great way to celebrate Women's History Month by having a conversation about what we can all do to ensure that women in our Nation are empowered. There were three specific issues that we spoke of that concern our Nation greatly.

The first one was fair pay, making sure that when women put in a full day's work they make the same amount of money as men do. The second was family leave, the ability to be able to take time off to be with sick parents or when you have a child. That is extremely important for working women. Also, there is child care. Many women are unable to take and keep jobs because they simply don't have the child care resources they need to make sure their children are safe so they can go on to work.

It is imperative that the United States Congress takes up these issues and continues to make sure that there is parity in our society and that women are able to enjoy the same benefits as men.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(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 rise today to demand action on comprehensive immigration reform.

For over a year, we have experienced nothing but broken promises from our Republican leadership. The Senate did its job in passing a bipartisan bill by a vote of 68–32, but Speaker BOEHNER and House Republicans have refused to consider this responsible proposal even though it has the votes to pass right now.

The reason for this is clear: Republicans would rather protect themselves from a primary challenge than address the challenges that face our Nation. That is why House Democrats have re-

sorted to introducing a discharge petition this week to demand a vote on immigration reform.

This is supposed to be a democracy. Comprehensive reform is backed by a majority of the American public, including the business community, labor unions, and religious organizations. Comprehensive reform would grow our economy, strengthen families and open doors of opportunity for millions of Americans who want to embrace the American Dream.

America has always been a nation of immigrants, continuously revitalized by those who come to our shores to make better lives for themselves and their families. Now is the time to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AGENDA

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Women's History Month.

March is the time to honor our foremothers by recommitting to the fight for complete equality between the sexes. Democrats know that the biggest challenge to attaining complete equality is through economic justice. My daughters are growing up in an America where women still make just 77 cents to every man's dollar. This wage discrimination is compounded even further when you consider that women also represent nearly two-thirds of minimum wage workers and that they often have jobs with no sick leave. If women have to choose between their jobs and their families, clearly, we still have a lot of work to do.

First, we must extend unemployment benefits. Women struggling to find work need that bridge to help pay the bills while they look for work. We must also increase the minimum wage, fight wage discrimination by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act, and extend paid family and medical leave to all women by passing the FAMILY Act.

This agenda is the perfect way to celebrate Women's History Month and to honor all Americans who have fought for equality and fairness. As President Obama said, "When women succeed, America succeeds."

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AGENDA

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, March is Women's History Month, and I rise in memory of a trailblazer, Georgia Lee Lusk, the first woman to ever represent New Mexico in the House of Representatives.

Georgia was elected in 1946 and served Congressional District One, my district. Georgia is in our history books as a woman who wasn't afraid of a fight. She grew up on a farm in Carlsbad and went to Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Georgia went to Washington to fight for better education and better care for veterans. As a school administrator, she had seen the effects of book shortages and overcrowded classrooms on young students. As a mother of three boys who all fought in the Second World War, she knew all too well the challenges faced by those returning from war. Georgia served on the Veterans' Affairs Committee and worked across the aisle to make sure that veterans received the benefits provided to them in the GI Bill of Rights. She fought for Federal aid to education, hot meals for students, and helped establish what we now know as the Department of Education, and she did so much more.

Mr. Speaker, as only the third Congresswoman in New Mexico's history, I am determined to carry on Georgia's fight—a fight for better care for our veterans and a better education for our students. When women succeed, America succeeds.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1459, ENSURING PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE CREATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 524 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 524

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1459) to ensure that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 applies to the declaration of national monuments, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the