

what the American Health Care Act will do.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, will hurt people—women, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and middle class families. It will result in universal chaos, not universal coverage.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this measure.

**AN EXERCISE IN SMOKE AND MIRRORS**

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

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Republican plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act is an exercise in smoke and mirrors.

This proposal would give tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans while burdening the hardworking families with higher healthcare costs. The Republican plan also allows soaring new healthcare costs for our seniors and shortens the life of the Medicare trust fund, endangering seniors and disabled Americans who depend on Medicaid coverage. This is completely unacceptable to Floridians.

We need to hear from the Congressional Budget Office about what this bill would really mean in numbers. The American people deserve to understand what the Republicans are trying to do with their health care.

I will continue to fight to ensure that Floridians with preexisting conditions don't have to worry about losing their healthcare coverage, and that young adults can stay on their parents' insurance until they reach age 26, and that we are going to do all we can to make health care affordable and accessible for all Americans and not just for a select few.

**WORST OF TIMES**

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, when President Trump was campaigning, he said that these were the worst of times for African Americans, conveniently or ignorantly forgetting slavery and Jim Crow. He said it couldn't get any worse.

Well, it is getting worse with a Justice Department that has already retreated on voting rights and that has empowered private prisons to take advantage of people which are disparately proportionate to African Americans for prison incarceration; a HUD department where the Secretary has said slavery was akin to immigration and where \$6 billion is to be cut from the budget; an education department that doesn't believe in public education that has given African Americans a chance for the American Dream; and a healthcare bill that takes away health care from the poorest and makes it to where many will not have health care,

and Medicaid will be decimated and possibility eliminated.

These are the worst of times and President Trump, Mr. Speaker, is showing African Americans things can get worse. They are getting worse, and they are on a daily basis.

**MORE HEALTH OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES**

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, we see more and more that ObamaCare or the Affordable Care Act is, indeed, unsustainable.

Today I rise, once again, to share another story or two about some of the highlights that some of my constituents are feeling back at home.

Last night, I hosted a telephone townhall to have an opportunity to hear from people in my district, once again, about some of the unsustainable, horrible stories that they have to tell about the experiences they have had with the ACA: sky-high premiums; poor access to health care; options that are less and less, especially in rural California and rural America; deductibles that have risen so high that insurance isn't really affordable for them to use at all.

Recently a physician within my district contacted my office and said that, after more than 30 years of a successful practice with happy clients, he is no longer able to provide the type of care his patients need due to the overburdensome paperwork requirements. This is providing less choices for people, especially the middle-income families that have to choose between the things they want to save for for their future and for their dreams and now happen to have much higher premiums, less choices, and a deductible that makes their insurance almost useless to them.

The American Health Care Act will give back more options for families and other Americans that desperately need this help and to meet all the goals that we are setting out to do.

**MEND THE LAW, NOT END THE LAW**

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

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to the repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act.

I will be the first to admit that ObamaCare has its flaws, but we should mend the law, not end the law. Because of the ACA, we have seen the uninsured rate in Nevada and in my district reduced by half.

The GOP replacement would not only drop 15 million Americans from their insurance and raise healthcare costs on hardworking Nevada families, but it

would end funding for Planned Parenthood, taking away affordable healthcare services that so many women in my district rely on.

Recently I received a letter from a constituent whose family has a history of breast cancer. She is so concerned that she and her daughter will stop receiving the regular cancer screenings that they need to survive.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable for us to vote on a bill that would create a life-or-death situation for millions of Americans across the country.

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**MEDICAID EXPANSION**

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, I have a new name for the process Republicans are using to destroy the Affordable Care Act. Instead of repeal and replace, how about we name it "we cut and gut"? Cut taxes for millionaires and billionaires, and gut coverage for hardworking Americans.

The bill would also undermine the Medicaid expansion in the Affordable Care Act. In Nevada, our own Governor Brian Sandoval, a Republican, made the decision to work with Democrats and expand the Medicaid program. Because we expanded Medicaid, 320,000 Nevadans now have health coverage, and Nevada's uninsured rate has dropped from 23 percent to 12 percent, one of the largest declines in the entire country.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would ask my Republican colleagues: Do you really want to turn your backs on hardworking families just to give billionaires a tax cut that they don't need or deserve?

Mr. Speaker, the silence is deafening.

**THERE ARE RADICAL ISLAMISTS WHO WANT TO DESTROY OUR WAY OF LIFE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is the end of another week in session.

Mr. Speaker, I want to revisit an important issue. It seems that what some of us were trying to point out for 8 years under the Obama administration fell on deaf ears, that there really are radical Islamists who want to destroy our way of life in the United States, who look at us as infidels, and not just Christians, Jews, secularists, and others, but even Muslims who do not adapt and accept the radical Islamic ways.

That works to the advantage of some because we have seen for 8 years CAIR, Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated groups, groups that were listed as co-conspirators in the Holy Land Foundation trial