

opioid crisis, since the ACA requires insurance companies to cover substance abuse treatment.

And the Republicans have no plan. Take away the healthcare from Americans; no plan to replace it. We ought to reject that.

□ 1215

**HEALTHCARE SYSTEM THAT WORKS FOR ALL AMERICANS**

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, while traveling recently through my home State of Minnesota, I met a wonderful couple in their early 60s. They were both teachers who had dedicated their professional lives to enriching our community by educating our children.

They had done everything right, saved as much money as they could, and it was time to retire, until the husband was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. Now, the out-of-pocket costs for his care will wipe out all of their retirement savings—all of their savings.

Madam Speaker, I ask: What is our President thinking?

This is an all-too-common story played out in blue and red districts throughout our Nation. Yet, we have a White House determined to wipe out the Affordable Care Act. It is callous; it is wrong; and it is unacceptable. It is time for us to make the moral decision to ensure that all Americans have access to affordable, high-quality healthcare, no matter their circumstances.

That is why we just introduced a bill in the House, led by my Minnesota colleague, ANGIE CRAIG, to reduce premiums and lower healthcare costs. That is why I am a cosponsor of Congressman DOGGETT's bill to make prescription drugs more affordable.

There is hard work to be done to make our health system work for all Americans, and we are doing it in the House.

I say to President Trump and my Republican colleagues that it is not too late to abandon this misguided effort to dismantle the ACA and join us to work on real solutions. That is what we are sent here to do.

**DON'T GET VOTED OFF THE ISLAND BECAUSE OF HEALTHCARE COSTS**

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, last week in Federal court, President Trump radically expanded his war on American's healthcare, asking the court not only to strike down protections for people with preexisting

conditions, but to eliminate every last protection and benefit provided by the ACA.

I am a two-time cancer survivor. Two of my four kids have lived with Crohn's disease for 14 years. There is no way to spin this. Without the protections of the Affordable Care Act, my family would be in big trouble.

If America's healthcare system was a reality TV show, under this President's mean-spirited, every-person-for-himself approach, I guess my family would get voted off the island because, with the hand God dealt us, we simply cost too much.

This week, the people's House will vote to make clear that we don't believe in that vision of America, and we will not stand idly by while Mr. Trump does everything he can to take away the protections and the benefits that American families like mine depend on.

Madam Speaker, I implore my Republican colleagues to stand with us and improve the ACA for the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

**HEALTHCARE—REINSURANCE, PREEXISTING CONDITIONS, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

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

Mrs. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, we have an urgent problem that we must immediately find common ground on to solve. If healthcare isn't affordable, it is not accessible. That is why I led the introduction of the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act, a bill to lower the cost of health insurance premiums in the individual market by 10 percent, on average, across the country. But that is only part of the solution.

Fifty-one percent of nonelderly people in my congressional district have a preexisting condition. That is why it is critical that we pass the bill that I have cosponsored, the Protecting Pre-Existing Conditions and Making Health Care More Affordable Act of 2019.

I will fight this administration every day if they roll back healthcare in this country. It is not perfect, but we have to put aside the petty politics of the past and quit thinking that if we fix our Nation's healthcare, somehow we are handing the other side a victory.

People across this country need our help. They need us to fix the cost of prescription drugs. They need us to unleash generic competition.

**CONDEMN CRUSADE TO TAKE AWAY HEALTHCARE**

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, last week, the President put a five-alarm fire on American families by putting the government's weight behind a lawsuit designed to cripple many healthcare protections. The ordinary people whose lives will be upended by this decision have been offered a raw deal to blow up healthcare and fix it later, but even that is a false promise.

There is no plan to help the 316,000 people with preexisting conditions in coastal Orange County or the millions of Americans across our country. There has been no plan for 10 years.

We have to recognize that the inability to pay healthcare expenses is the leading cause of personal bankruptcy in the United States and a leading cause of homelessness.

I hope my Republican colleagues will have the chance to show the American people that Congress isn't completely without common sense and decency by voting for our resolution Tuesday condemning this ideological crusade to take away healthcare from millions of needy American families.

**UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE COVERAGE**

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

Mr. DELGADO. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to highlight the need for our country to finally achieve universal healthcare coverage.

As the wealthiest country in the world, there is simply no excuse for us to be the only developed country left without universal healthcare. There are a lot of different ways to achieve universal healthcare, and I believe that a public option is the best way for us to get there. That is why I was pleased yesterday to introduce the Medicare-X Choice Act, which will finally bring our country to universal healthcare coverage.

My bill will combine Medicare physician networks and reimbursement rates with ACA coverage standards to create a new public option available to all Americans. My bill would allow those who are happy with their employer-provided insurance to keep it, while offering another more affordable coverage option to those in need.

With this bill, we are introducing more choice and more competition to the marketplace, starting in the places that need it most, like rural areas with provider shortages. This much-needed competition will drive down costs for everyone.

Our constituents expect us to take on the big issues impacting their lives. This should not be a partisan issue. We must roll up our sleeves and get to work so we can lower the cost of coverage for all Americans.