

133 million Americans have pre-existing conditions. They would lose their healthcare at the discretion of the health insurance industry, 312,000 in my district alone.

Twelve million Americans would lose their expanded Medicaid, 350,000 in my district.

Medicare would go broke 4 years earlier if President Trump prevails in repealing the Affordable Care Act in its totality.

RECOGNIZING ARISTON CAFE

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of the most well-known landmarks along Route 66 in Illinois, the Ariston Cafe, on its 95th year of operation.

After opening in 1924 along Route 4 in Carlinville, the Ariston actually predates Route 66. In 1935, it moved to its current location along the Mother Road in Litchfield, Illinois.

The Ariston Cafe is a member of the Route 66 Association Hall of Fame and Museum and is in the National Register of Historic Places in Illinois and the National Park Service.

The Ariston is one of the oldest restaurants along Route 66 and is the fifth-longest running restaurant in the entire State of Illinois.

Later this spring, the Ariston will be holding a relighting ceremony to celebrate the replacement of its classic neon sign, thanks to a grant from the National Park Service.

The Ariston Cafe is a treasure within central Illinois and along Route 66, and I look forward to many more years of success for this great restaurant.

BE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF HISTORY

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, basic healthcare coverage for 23 million everyday Americans and thousands of people in my district of the Virgin Islands is at risk of being undermined because our friends across the aisle fail to have the same urgency about these impending calamities.

Virgin Islanders are at a critical junction. We face a daunting and devastating Medicaid cliff on September 30, 2019, an absolute collapse in Medicaid.

Our Republican colleagues continue the work to dismantle healthcare for millions of Americans right now. They voted to eliminate protection for pre-existing conditions and to strip their healthcare coverage.

Last weekend, the Trump administration escalated its attack on Americans' healthcare by supporting a Federal judge's ruling that the entire Affordable Care Act should be thrown out.

Today, I ask my Republican colleagues: What side will history find you on, protecting American families or the need to protect partisan interests?

A demonstration of this was the Republican-controlled Senate's failure last week to advance a disaster aid package that includes billions for American families still recovering from 2017 natural disasters.

Be on the right side of history.

FIX OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because there is a lot we need to do to fix healthcare here in the United States.

I will work with anyone, regardless of political party, who has ideas to improve healthcare and get costs down, but I find it unacceptable that the Department of Justice wants to gut the Affordable Care Act with no plan.

We need to stabilize the volatile healthcare marketplace, increase competition so that affordable prescription drugs are within reach for everyone, cover preexisting conditions, and make sure that we always protect the Social Security and Medicare that our seniors rely on.

Last Congress, the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus introduced such a proposal, and we need to get it done now.

In New Jersey, we are very lucky to have some of the best healthcare providers, innovators, and hospitals in the world. We are America's medicine cabinet.

Our people deserve a bipartisan approach to fix our healthcare system so that we can look out for everyone in New Jersey and everyone across the country.

WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, when we took our oath in January, no issue before us was more critical than healthcare.

Over the past 100 days, we have fought the administration's efforts to gut the Affordable Care Act at every turn. We must keep at it because the ACA has allowed 53,000 New Hampshire residents to enroll in Medicaid expansion. The coverage for substance use disorder makes it the best tool we have to fight the opioid crisis.

We also voted to empower House counsel to defend coverage for those with preexisting conditions. Half the adult population in my State of New Hampshire has a preexisting condition. We can't go back to the days when insurance companies could discriminate against them.

We have also introduced legislation that will lower premiums, strengthen patient protections, and crack down on junk plans that could send New Hampshire families right into bankruptcy.

Lowering costs and expanding access to care must continue to be at the top of our priority list. Nothing is more important to the health of our districts and the well-being of this Nation.

Let's work together to improve our healthcare system, not play politics with it.

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HEALTHCARE AND THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, you have heard in the last round of 60-second comments a sense of urgency around healthcare. I share that sense of urgency, as I know everybody on my side of the aisle does.

But for the next 1 hour, Mr. Speaker, we are going to be talking about what purports to be the House budget, the budget that would tell us what our Medicaid priorities are, the budget that would tell us how we are going to save Medicare, the budget that would tell us how we are going to protect Social Security, and the budget that would tell us what our values are as a nation. That is what the law requires: that we bring such a document to the floor and that we do it by April 15.

But for the next hour, Mr. Speaker, what you are going to hear is that the House is producing no such budget, that the House is silent on protecting Medicaid, silent on protecting Medicare, and silent on protecting Social Security.

We can do better, as my colleagues have challenged us to do. It is going to take a partnership, though, not empty accusations.

CLIMATE CHANGE

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for urgent action to reduce carbon pollution and save our planet.

We know climate change poses serious environmental and economic threats to communities across New Hampshire and throughout the United States. Let me give you one unusual example:

In New Hampshire and Maine, researchers have found a 70 percent mortality rate among young moose calves between 2014 and 2016. That is up from 15 percent just two decades ago. These deaths are caused by the prevalence of winter ticks that are thriving with warmer winters.

Another recent study found that warming rivers could have an impact on the health of brook trout.