

had about 8 years now, give or take, to prepare something with which to replace it—would have a replacement ready to go, maybe a replacement enacted into law, but at least a replacement that is ready to go on day one that would have all of the details worked out. This would not be just any replacement—not just a replacement that has words like “preexisting conditions” in the title of the bill—but something real and substantial and credible on a complicated subject like healthcare, meaning that the replacement would cover at least 20 million people, would provide all of the protections for all of those Americans, whether it is on protections against a preexisting condition or otherwise, and would be comparable in its positive impact on Americans. You would think this bill would be ready to go and ready to be enacted into law, but that is not the case.

I shouldn't say I was surprised, but I was somewhat concerned when—I guess it was last week, about a week ago—I picked up *POLITICO* and read that a number of Republican Senators were expressing the hope that the lawsuit would be successful, the hope that the Affordable Care Act would be declared unconstitutional. Yet what I didn't see in that article and didn't see in a lot of other places is a replacement that will provide a comparable, if not identical, measure of protection. That is what they told us all along—right?—that they have another way to do it and that all of the American people are going to be better off because of it. That is the basic promise that has been made by the Republicans in the Senate and in the House over many years. So you would think it would be ready, but it apparently is not ready.

I hope that maybe in the month of August, the plan will be developed and be ready to go and not just any old plan that has a nice title on it and a surge of protections that can't be brought to fruition—or brought into effect—because, when you provide the kind of protections the Affordable Care Act provides, you have to make the math work. You have to make sure you can pay for it, and you have to make sure the policy will support what you promise in the details of the legislation.

We will see what happens. If this lawsuit were to be affirmed at the circuit court level, I am assuming there would be an appeal by one side or the other. Yet, if we reach a point at which a court says the ACA is unconstitutional, I hope there is going to be a replacement that will provide all of the protections, all of the coverage, and all of the essential elements that were in the Affordable Care Act but that they will be done in a better way because that is what they have all promised on the other side. I don't think it is likely to happen. Something is going to give. Something will be cut. Something will be taken away or a lot more than that.

By way of an example, I will use only one number for today—642,000. I think

it is 642,700. That is the estimate of the number of children who live in Pennsylvania who have preexisting conditions. So any change in law by way of a court—a Federal court or the Supreme Court or otherwise—or any change in law pursuant to congressional action has to make sure, among many things, that every one of those 642,700 children in Pennsylvania has protections in place by law for preexisting conditions in addition to covering all of the other adults across Pennsylvania.

Basically, it is almost one out of every two Americans who has a preexisting condition. That is the rough estimate. That is a lot of people across the country. Some people believe, as well as there being some credible, reliable estimates, that it is north of 130 million Americans. So those are the only two numbers I will give.

The lawsuit is problematic. If that were all, that would be bad enough, but there are two things that are problematic when it comes to healthcare. One is that of the proposed cuts by the administration. Now, I realize House Republicans and Senate Republicans may not agree with the President's proposal, but he is in the same party, and his Budget Director is in the same party, and the Congress of the United States has to react to that budget proposal.

The administration proposed a 10-year Medicaid cut of \$1.5 trillion, and that is with a “t”—trillion—not billion. The administration proposed a \$1.5 trillion cut to Medicaid. It proposed a similar cut—or, I should say, a comparable cut but actually a lower number—to Medicare over 10 years of \$845 billion. You have to be able to say: OK, if it is the case that there is a credible replacement that provides the identical protections and coverage that the Affordable Care Act provided, what would happen to healthcare if you were to cut Medicaid by \$1.5 trillion and Medicare by \$845 billion?

You have to answer those questions if you are serious about healthcare. Now, if you are just kind of moving things around and having a talking point for a campaign, maybe that is different, but if you are serious about healthcare and if you are serious about coverage and if you are serious about there being an adverse impact on kids, on people with disabilities, and on seniors, you can't cut Medicaid by \$1.5 trillion.

One way to describe Medicaid is in the nursing home program for the middle class, in many instances. Medicaid is not a program for someone distant out there who is not worthy of our support and our help. Medicaid is about us. Medicaid is who we are because we decided more than 50 years ago that we are the United States of America, and we are the strongest country in the world for lots of reasons. Thank goodness we have the strongest military, and thank goodness we have the strongest economy. Yet we are also the

greatest country in the world because folks around the world have seen they can follow our example once in a while. They saw more than 50 years ago that we said, if you are a child in a low-income family or if you have a disability or if you are a senior who is trying to get into a nursing home, Medicaid is going to help you do that. We also passed Medicare at the same time.

So if you are serious about healthcare, you have to be really concerned about these budget cut proposals by the administration.

The third and last topic on this is the efforts undertaken by the administration, when in the midst of failing to repeal the Affordable Care Act and, thereafter, the efforts to sabotage the Affordable Care Act—and not in any way an overstatement—when you have an advertising budget to let people know that they can go to the exchanges—not the Medicaid expansion but the exchanges—to get healthcare coverage and to get a subsidy to help them purchase healthcare—maybe for the first time, millions of people got that opportunity, and millions still have it—in order for folks to know about that, to know about their eligibility, to know about the benefits of that, you have to advertise. We know that. The administration cut the advertising budget by only 90 percent—not quite 100 but a 90-percent cut in the advertising budget.

There are also other ways they have undermined and sabotaged the system. If you are concerned about healthcare, you have to be concerned about that sabotage, you have to be concerned about Medicaid and Medicare cuts, and you have to be concerned about this lawsuit.

We have a lot of work to do just to protect the gains—the coverage gains and the protection gains—that have been hard won over many years that benefit tens and tens of millions of Americans. I am not sure I can put a total number on them. So I hope those who are rooting for this lawsuit to be successful will have factored in all of that when that day comes, if it were to come, to change healthcare radically and dramatically for the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). The majority leader.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN LOGAN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, on this recent Father's Day, Dr. John

Logan's granddaughter wanted to publicly honor his lifetime of service and success in western Kentucky. I have had the privilege to call John a friend for more than three decades, and I enjoyed reading the stories of his youth, his early medical career, and his many contributions to his community and our Commonwealth.

Growing up, John's baseball talent was apparent at an early age. In fact, he was still in middle school when he caught the local high school coach's attention. As the varsity team's catcher, John quickly stood out. One sports reporter even called him the best catcher in all western Kentucky. His skill was matched only by his passion for the game, even a broken elbow didn't stop him from playing in the 1955 State tournament.

During his senior year of high school, however, John began to hear a calling to help other people. It was a drive that took him away from the diamond and into medical school. After graduating from Western Kentucky University, John earned a rural medical scholarship to study at Vanderbilt University. His career in medicine began with a commitment to serve rural Kentucky communities most in need.

As a doctor, John and his new wife Jackie made a home in Sebree, KY, where his gifts were in high demand. Caring for Kentuckians across three counties, John quickly honed his skills and provided quality care to those in need. During his time in this small community, John learned that a physician must treat more than a patient's body. He began getting involved in a number of community organizations, and has dedicated his efforts to projects through the years to make Kentucky a better place.

Moving to Henderson and opening a private family practice, John also began working with the Henderson Fine Arts Center, the Depot on the Riverfront, and the YMCA. He worked to help provide scholarships for young people to attend college, paying forward the aid he received to fund his studies years before.

Many of Henderson's landmarks simply wouldn't exist without John's leadership. One of them, the Henderson Riverwalk, gave me a chance to join John's team to get the project done. It now bears a plaque recognizing his lasting imprint on this community. When this honor was unveiled, I was proud to recognize his life spent working for others. As he enjoys his well-deserved retirement, John continues to inspire others to contribute to their communities and improve our beloved Commonwealth.

I would like to thank Ashton Brooks Logan, John's granddaughter, for sharing these stories about his many achievements. It is my pleasure to recognize my dear friend today. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. John Logan for his years of dedication to western Kentucky, which is better because of him.

The Gleaner in Henderson, KY, recently published a profile of John's remarkable life. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Gleaner, June 15, 2019]

JOHN LOGAN WENT FROM CHASING HOME RUNS TO MAKING HOUSE CALLS  
(By Ashton Brooks Logan)

In the summer of 1950, there wasn't much to do in historical Edmonson County, Kentucky, other than get a few local kids together and enter a baseball tournament, in Bowling Green.

"We didn't have equipment, we didn't have uniforms, and we didn't have a coach, we just had nine guys," Dr. John Logan said recently.

But John's quick arm attracted the eye of Louis Durbin, the Brownsville High School's baseball coach, when the team was short a catcher.

Logan was just in the sixth grade when Coach Durbin gave him an offer to play on their varsity team in 1951.

"I started without a mask and I still have the scar under my left eye to prove it," Logan said. Logan's passion for baseball, paired with an eye for throwing out players who stole second base, led him to play for the Bowling Green American Legion team.

Even now, his eyes brighten and cheeks lift with a smile as he talks about his time on the team. He believes his claim to fame was the 1955 state tournament when he played three games with a broken right elbow—without ever letting the fact on to the other team.

"I couldn't even warm up the pitcher. I could barely step in front of the plate and flip it to him," he said. "The coach and I had a little plan and it was unbelievable, but it happened."

To his advantage, his team had already faced its opposition in the previous year's state tournament and won. He can't remember how many runners tried to steal second in that first go-round, but he recalls throwing out every one of them.

Apparently they were still scared of Logan's arm.

"Now tell me somethin'," the opposing coach said a little later in the hotel lobby, after Logan's team won the tournament. "I don't recall you throwin' a single ball to second base, you got a problem or something?"

John simply looked at him, smiled and said, "Well, just a broken elbow, but other than that I'm fine!"

Later that year, a sports reporter wrote in a local paper that he believed Logan was the best catcher in all of Western Kentucky.

Logan was at a crossroads. He had a passion to play ball but a burning drive to help those around him.

Dr. Eugene Farmer, a family physician in Brownsville took Logan under his wing, allowing him to shadow his work at a young age. And after transferring to Bowling Green High School his senior year, Logan buckled down on his studies.

A week following his graduation from BGHS, he was enrolled in summer school at Western Kentucky University in 1955. He then went straight through undergraduate, graduating in 1957 and that fall enrolled in medical studies at Vanderbilt University.

He was on a rural medical scholarship that clearly stated for every year he attended school, he must spend a year in rural Kentucky. So he settled in Sebree, Kentucky, the Webster County hometown of his new wife, Jackie Barnett Logan, and opened his own practice.

"I made house calls and took care of three different counties . . . I admitted patients to hospitals that were 16 miles away on a two-lane road," Logan says. "I must have aged 15 years in that period of time."

He recalls times that he had no idea what he was coming up on.

Remembering a time that a woman called him to a car accident outside of her house, he describes jumping in his car and riding to the scene to see a car turned over in a ditch and hearing a child's cries.

Working his way in the ditch, he immediately saw a child's leg hanging out of the door and thought to himself, her limb has been severed.

Finally, after laying the child on the bank and checking her vitals, he looks at the child's face only to realize it was his second eldest daughter, Sarah. His initial fears were unfounded; she walked away that day with nothing more than a few bruises.

"Talk about something shocking," Logan said. "We dealt with things that you never thought would happen."

After leaving his practice in Sebree in 1967, he and Dr. Kenneth Eblen formed a partnership to open a private family practice in Henderson.

In 1986 Logan moved to hospital administration at Methodist Hospital where he held the position of medical director.

During his time as medical director he started and managed the intern and resident program among various other duties until he retired in the spring of 2018.

Dr. Logan still has an passion for playing ball, and those who also share a love for the sport.

While still practicing medicine in Sebree, he was approached by a man who was interested in baseball and wanted to better the current field in the county. Almost 50 years later and the baseball park is still functioning, seeing hundreds and hundreds of ball players coming through its diamonds in the years.

"I feel strongly that professional people, too many times, in their own community use the excuse of not helping out in community organizations because they are too busy," Logan said.

"(But) these things made an impact. These things made an impression. These things help people's lives. That is what you feel good about as well as helping people, physically."

Logan has been deeply involved in the community of Henderson through major projects such as the Henderson Fine Arts Center, the Depot on the Riverfront the Riverwalk, the YMCA, and the Colonels to College scholarship that ensures students graduating from Henderson County High School will get to attend two years of college.

According to Logan, baseball taught him so much more than how to throw out the runner at second base.

"One of the biggest things, sugar, is discipline. Sometimes you go when you feel like you can't go but you've to do to get job done and baseball, to me was that" Logan said.

"It was a team effort to reach a certain goal and my goal in life and what I went into medicine for, was to help people. I've done a lot in the community that has nothing to do with medicine because it's the same thing. I think everybody owes something back and that, I think, is a driving force."

Dr. Logan is now retired and resides in Henderson with his wife Jackie. He still serves on various charitable boards and loves to spend time in his garden when he isn't busy catching crappie on Barkley Lake.

# TRIBUTE TO DR. CHRISTOPHER J. SCOLESE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, just before the July recess, the Senate confirmed the nomination of Dr. Christopher J. Scolese to serve as Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, NRO. I doubt there is any individual more qualified for the job. I supported the nomination, but it was bittersweet because Chris has left his post as Director of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. Chris was the longest serving Director in Goddard's illustrious history.

Chris is well-suited to run the NRO. To put the matter simply, he knows how to put stuff into space and make it work. I will provide just one example: the Terra mission. Chris was the project manager. Terra was supposed to be a 5-year Earth science mission that has now lasted 20 years. Terra explores the connections between Earth's atmosphere, land, snow and ice, ocean, and energy balance to further our understanding of our home planet.

I know the NRO is headquartered in Virginia, but with Chris at the helm, we Marylanders will consider it part of our State, just as we consider the Wallops Flight Facility to be part of Maryland. I was down at Wallops on April 17 for the successful commercial resupply services, CRS launch to the International Space Station and I visited Goddard on March 4 to discuss the impact of the 35-day government shutdown and the budget picture going forward with Chris and the Goddard workforce.

Chris certainly has the academic credentials for the job. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical and computer engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and he earned a master's degree in electrical and computer engineering and a Ph.D. in systems engineering from George Washington University. After Chris earned his bachelor's degree, ADM Hyman Rickover personally selected him to serve at Naval Sea Systems Command, NAVSEA, where he worked on the development of instrument and multi-processor systems for the U.S. Navy and the Department of Energy. I think anyone who could pass muster with Admiral Rickover can handle just about anything, including running the NRO.

Chris's stint in the Nuclear Navy from 1978 to 1986 was just the beginning of a long, distinguished career in public service. In 1987, he joined Goddard's Earth Science team and became Earth Science Program Manager and Deputy Director of Flight Projects. Later, he moved to NASA Headquarters as Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Science for 3 years before returning to Goddard where he rose to become Deputy Director. Chris then returned to NASA Headquarters, first as Chief Engineer and then as Associate Administrator, which is the top civil servant at the Agency. He served as Acting Administrator from January to July of

2009. He went back to Goddard, where he became Director in 2012.

I think that moving over to the helm of NRO is a natural fit for Chris since Goddard manages many of NASA's space telescope programs, including the Hubble Space Telescope and the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope, WFIRST, that have a technology heritage from NRO's satellites.

I have enjoyed getting to know and working with Chris over the past several years. He developed great relationships with the Maryland delegation and with local officials. He is a subject matter expert and an excellent manager. He has an upbeat, amiable, and collegial personality that brings out the best in the people who work with him. Goddard employees from custodians and bus drivers to Nobel laureates felt free to engage with Chris. He listens and relates to everyone as a colleague. Former Dodgers' manager Leo Durocher famously said that nice guys finish last. He didn't know Chris. Chris is a genuinely nice guy who has come out on top, and deservedly so.

Chris instituted a culture of diversity and inclusion at Goddard, and I am sure he will do the same at NRO. He is committed to inspiring the next generation. He has a great interest in STEM and talking with students. Goddard hosted over 500 interns every year while Chris was Director. He routinely referred students and young adults whom he met to Goddard's education director so they could learn more about working at Goddard. He has been committed to early career professionals and always included their voice in senior staff retreats. Above all, Chris is a dedicated public servant with the accolades and awards to prove it, including the 2018 American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics Von Karman Award, the Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive, and the NASA Distinguished Leadership Medal, among many others.

Whenever we talk about public servants, it is important to mention their spouses and other family members whose own sacrifices enable and support that service. I would be remiss if I failed to mention Chris's wife, Dianne, and their children: daughter Jenni and her husband Mark; son Dan and his wife Maura and their daughter Maddie who is Chris and Dianne's granddaughter; daughter Lauren and her fiancé Ian; and daughter Anna.

Chris may be from New York, and he may live and now work in Virginia, but we Marylanders will always consider him as one of our own, and we are grateful for his distinguished service to our Nation. I have no doubt that he will be a superb NRO Director.

## TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL BARBARA R. HOLCOMB

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to honor MG Barbara R. Holcomb for her 32 years of service in our Armed

Forces, most notably, as the first female commanding general at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command at Fort Detrick and chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Major General Holcomb grew up in the small town of Miles City, MT, and joined the Army Reserve Officer Training Corp, ROTC, following her first year of nursing school at Seattle University. She completed her education as a distinguished military graduate with a bachelor of science in nursing. She continued her exceptional career with service to our country and continued Montana's proud heritage of military service and firsts in female leadership.

Major General Holcomb goes above and beyond as a leader and, as such, was chosen to speak at the 2018 Women in Leadership Summit at the Aberdeen Proving Ground. She shared her experience in finding balance as a leader and the importance of a leader getting to know themselves and their peers. Even though she was not allowed to serve in a battalion commander position as a cadet in ROTC, she became a commander as a captain and commanded at every rank thereafter. It is this commitment to strong leadership and personal growth that has led her to a long and successful career in the Army and distinguishes her as an exceptional Montanan.

It is not without good reason that Major General Holcomb has received many awards, including a Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star, and membership in the Order of Military Medical Merit. Between her focus on the personal, human aspect of healthcare, her commitment to continued education, and the selfless passion with which she serves her country, Major General Holcomb embodies what it means to be an outstanding leader and individual.

Upon her retirement, the U.S. Army will be losing one of their most valuable assets; however, the example of leadership that she has set for so many will leave a lasting impact on the quality of this nation's Army Nurse Corps and, consequently, the quality of care that our Nation's soldiers will receive. Montana is proud to call her one of our own.

I would like to recognize Major General Barbara R. Holcomb, her personal accomplishments, and contributions to this country.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO DAVID BLOM

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career and service of David P. Blom, who will retire later this month after serving as the president and CEO of OhioHealth since 2002. Under David's leadership, OhioHealth has grown its legacy of providing high-quality care to patients across central Ohio, including residents of my hometown, Mansfield.