

there, not until the dictators are gone and the teachers of freedom have erected a new Lady Liberty, our gift to the students, the students of freedom.

I was in school when President Reagan, standing in front of the Berlin Wall said, "Mr. Gorbachev, take down this wall."

Many saw the scene as a reckless, silly old man standing against the night calling for the light and truth of freedom. But President Reagan was sure of what he spoke. He stood for freedom. He stood for principle, and he dared to dream of a different and better world.

How can it be that we have shifted so quickly to a place of compromise and appeasement, to a place of favoring corporate profit over foundational principles, to a place of investigating the nearly unutterable, that campaign contributions may have driven the transfer of American-made missile guidance systems to an enemy of freedom?

Last week the House voted 409 to 10 to set up a special nine-member committee with far-reaching authority to look into whether U.S. national security has been undermined in this matter. According to our intelligence agencies, at least 13 intercontinental ballistic missiles with American missile guidance systems may be pointed at the United States of America.

"Knock it down," the dictators ordered. God forbid that it should happen to the real Lady of Liberty. God forbid.

#### REPORT ON H.R. 4112, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. KINGSTON, (during the special order of Mr. NEUMANN) from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-595) on the bill (H.R. 4112) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DIAZ-BALART). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4103, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS (during the special order of Mr. PALLONE), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-596) on the resolution (H. Res. 484) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4103) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4104, TREASURY, POSTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS (during the special order of Mr. PALLONE), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-597) on the resolution (H. Res. 485) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4104) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### MANAGED CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tonight I would like to talk again about the issue of managed care reform, and I have said before on the floor that this issue, without question, has become one of the most important on the minds of Americans, not only in my district but I think throughout the country.

The reason that it has become so important is because patients are being abused within managed care organizations. Patients often lack basic elementary protections from abuse, and these abuses are occurring because insurance companies and not doctors are dictating which patients can get what services under what circumstances.

Within managed care organizations or HMOs, the judgment of doctors is increasingly taking a back seat to the judgment of insurance companies. Medical necessity is being shunted aside by the desire of bureaucrats to make an extra buck, and people are literally dying because they are not getting the medical attention they need and, ironically enough, are in theory paying for through their premiums.

This is not an exaggeration. Myself and the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE), who will be joining me tonight, and other colleagues on both sides of the aisle have told numerous stories about people throughout the country who have been negatively impacted by managed care.

As I mentioned before, because of the importance of this issue, there are a number of legislative proposals that have been introduced to give patients the protections they deserve from managed care organizations. And working with the Democratic Caucus' Health Care Task Force, which I co-chair, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) introduced legislation which would provide patients with a comprehensive set of protections from managed care abuses.

His bill, the Patients Bill of Rights, is not an attempt to destroy managed care. It is an attempt to make it better. To emphasize that point, supporters of managed care reform want just that, reform, not a dismantling of managed care.

The Patients Bill of Rights would help bring about that reform by putting medical decisions back where they belong, with doctors and their patients. I have to mention that this is also a bipartisan bill, with 7 Republican cosponsors, including my colleague the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE).

Unfortunately, though, the Patients Bill of Rights does not enjoy the support of the Republican leadership. It is not clear exactly where they stand on the issue of managed care reform. There is still a task force that the Republicans have put together and has been meeting, but so far the Republican leadership has not allowed any managed care reform bill to be heard in committee or to be marked up in committee or to come to the floor, and I believe that that is because of the power of the insurance industry that that has not happened so far.

Mr. Speaker, tonight I just wanted to say that there have been some recent important developments on this issue. I am going to let my colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE) go into some of this, but I just wanted to say that legislation was introduced today by the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), again on a bipartisan basis, to try to bring the Patients Bill of Rights and possibly other managed care reform to the floor through what we call a discharge petition. Basically a discharge petition is necessary when the House leadership will not allow a bill to come to the floor through the normal committee process.

I just wanted to say how much I appreciate the efforts of my colleague from Iowa, not only in introducing this discharge petition today with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) but also because the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE) has been an outspoken champion and leader of the movement here in the House to bring the Patients Bill of Rights to the floor, and I think he deserves a tremendous amount of credit for that reason.

The only thing I also wanted to mention today about this discharge petition is that I believe that there is a tremendous amount of support for this. As my colleague knows well, we have been working closely with over 150 groups that support the Patients Bill of Rights. I think the Patients Bill of Rights now has 192 cosponsors.

Another bill on managed care reform which the gentleman from Iowa (Dr. GANSKE) has supported, the PARCA bill, has even more cosponsors, from what I understand, so I do not think it is going to be difficult to get support for this discharge petition.

The last thing that I did want to mention though, before yielding to the