

they have gone to their sponsors, the pharmaceutical companies, the insurance companies, who say, look, how about we phony up a bill that continues the status quo and we pretend it is a new benefit for seniors, and the pharmaceutical companies love it. That is why they are giving a quarter of a million bucks from this one company and millions in addition to that at tonight's gala.

There is no guaranteed benefit under the Republican plan. Mr. Speaker, \$20 billion over 10 years would go to the pharmaceutical companies as an inducement for them to offer free market, private policies. God forbid we should extend Medicare. They do not want to do that. No, they are very worried about that, because they know if we extend a Medicare benefit to the seniors, then we might begin to question the absolutely obscene prices they are charging for some of their drugs and we might even take steps to rein in those costs like Canada, Great Britain, France, Italy, Spain, Mexico. In fact, every other industrialized country on Earth has taken steps to rein in their obscene pharmaceutical charges. No, but not the United States. We are going to take a free market approach. First give them the \$20 billion as an incentive to maybe offer a program and under this "maybe" program, this is what the Republicans estimate they would provide, a benefit that would total, of the first \$1,000 of drug expenses, which is half the seniors in America spend \$1,000, they would get a \$182 benefit after their premium, their deductibles, and their out-of-pocket costs.

Wow. Wow, \$182. Now, that is really going to help out the seniors who are having trouble today meeting these costs. Of course, remember, this is only recommended. It is not required. God forbid we should put a mandate on the insurance companies. No, no, no, no, no requirement. This is just a suggestion, a suggestion, as opposed to a real Medicare benefit that the Democrats are providing as an alternative. The emperor has no clothes here. Have a good fundraising dinner tonight, guys, but I think in the end the champagne you are toasting tonight might taste like vinegar.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JUNETEENTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to be with you here tonight as we gather here in remembrance of a day that has become a symbol of African-American freedom and culture. On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved black Americans were now free. Granger's message came two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

Upon his arrival, Granger's first orders of business was to read to the people of Texas, General Order Number 3 which began most significantly with:

The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer.

On the evening of June 19, 1865, thousands of African-Americans filled the streets of Galveston, celebrating their newly announced freedom. Throughout the night, the sweet smell of barbecue, combined with the sounds of dancing feet, and harmonic spirituals, permeated the air. For the slaves freed in Galveston and across America, June 19th, would and does forever commemorate African-American freedom.

Juneteenth became an official State holiday through the efforts of Al Edwards, an African-American Texas legislator, making Juneteenth the first emancipation celebration granted official state recognition. Juneteenth celebrates African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

Across the nation and even the world, thousands will participate in activities and events in remembrance of Union soldiers' arrival in Texas. Let us reflect and rejoice on this monumental event in history. Let us come together and join hands across races, nationalities and religions to acknowledge a part of American history that has, does, and will continue to shape our society as we know it today.

African-Americans' history is America's history and the events of 1865 will not be forgotten as the celebration of Juneteenth takes on a more national and even global perspective. For that reason, I am supporting the establishment of a commission to commemorate those enslaved Americans that fought so vigilantly for their freedom. I am also proud to be an original sponsor of a bill that would support the erection of monument honoring African-American slaves.

A day such as Juneteenth enhances the importance of the War on Terrorism and the importance of fighting the evils that threaten human rights and freedoms across the globe. Just as the slaves in Galveston and President Lincoln recognized the value of freedom in 1865, so too, should we realize the importance of remembering that day and taking its lessons with us as we confront the current political climate.

I urge you all here, if you haven't already, please take a moment to reflect on the meaning of this day. Reflect on its meaning for Afri-

can-Americans, and its meaning for oppressed persons around the globe. Take the opportunity to participate in the various activities and events organized in celebration of Juneteenth, and I urge you to never forget what the day June 19 means to American history.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BROWN of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am here on the floor today to mark the 30th anniversary of title IX, which was a part of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 signed into law on June 23, 1972, 30 years ago. The few pages of title IX set a policy for the United States in all areas of education: elementary, secondary, higher education, graduate education; a policy that set forth explicitly that no institution should discriminate against girls or women in the courses and programs that they offered at these institutions, if that institution received Federal funds. That was 1972.

Remarkably, in a very short period of time, the institutions across America paid attention to these few words in title IX and we began to see some very remarkable changes in our schools, in the programs that were being offered, the number of women that were enrolled in programs that prior to that, one could rarely ever see women students, especially in graduate programs. And they won fellowships and they had opportunities made available to them that were unheard of before 1972.

A number of Members of the House had indicated to me that they were going to join in this recognition of title IX and the celebration of the 30th anniversary. But because we were called earlier and the program of the House ended at an early hour, many of these Members probably are not here to be a part of it, but I know that they will be including their remarks as part of this celebration today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD).