

of the aisle like to use that as a bogeyman for us and imply that that means socialized medicine, and that we want to implement this single-payer system that is going to be government top-down health care.

There are ways to expand access to health care to large populations, to almost everybody who is uninsured, and then we only have to work hard towards ensuring that last phase of the population. We can expand access to health care for all children by expanding the SCHIP program. We can expand access to health care to more older Americans by simply expanding the Medicare program and letting people from 50 to 64 years old buy into that program. Those are bills that were filed when we were in the minority and that will be filed again and that we will have an opportunity to be able to pursue now that we are past the 100-hour agenda. So just you having come just out of the State legislature and being a health care expert, I would just love to hear your thoughts about that.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, you are exactly right. I remember standing at a supermarket in my district during the campaign or maybe a few years before, and a woman who was, I think, 59, 58 years old, who had been laid off, and who understandably was having trouble finding new employment. It is difficult for older Americans to find a new job, especially one that has a comprehensive package of benefits. And she looked at me with this blank face and said, "Why am I in this position? Why can I not get health care when I know the Medicare program is right there? I am willing to pay for it. I am willing to contribute to it. And yet I can't get access to this program simply because I have been put into a situation where I can't find a job or I can't find a job with benefits, and I don't qualify for the program."

So there are ways that we can help, as you said, those older Americans who are on the cusp of being able to qualify for Medicare, and certainly the millions of children around this country who have no health care insurance and end up getting sick. I mean, they get sick, and they come into our emergency rooms to get the care they need. Mr. RYAN said here the other night, we do have a system of universal coverage in this country; unfortunately, it is in our emergency rooms rather than in our doctors' offices and our primary care doctors' offices.

And maybe just to tie this back to what we were talking about before when it comes to the war in Iraq. You know, we have an obligation to our veterans when they come back, and what we have done here over the past 10 years to the health care system for veterans is a travesty of justice to the brave men and women who have fought for this country.

I absolutely support moving towards universal coverage. I think you are right, it doesn't have to be done all at

once. In fact, I think the best proposals before this body are to really take some commonsense approaches to it. But maybe the first thing we should do is start to repair some of the damage that we did to the veterans health care system to make sure that when you volunteer to serve this country abroad, that when you come back, you are going to get the mental health care that you need, that you are going to not have to wait in line for a surgery that you badly need. Maybe that is our first obligation is to take care of those folks, because in the end we are here to serve everyone, but we are certainly here to make sure that those people that fight for us, Mr. MEEK, are taken care of. And I would yield to you.

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Mr. MEEK of Florida. All I am going to do is do a close. I know we have the Web site and all, but I want to yield to Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ because I want to tell you, I am not from Connecticut, but if I was one of your constituents, I would vote for you. You are good. That is all I can say.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. We had another member of the Florida delegation. I am honored to be part of the 30-something group, but to be part of the Florida delegation here today was just as impressive.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. I was just saying if I was your constituent I would vote for you. It is good to have a Member of Congress that is as well informed into the issues that are facing the constituents and the American people. I yield to Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ because we are going to be closing out soon.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much. One of the things that I think is important for the Members and other folks to know is we did this 30-something hour night after night in the minority for the last several years, and we want folks to know that we are not just shutting down and becoming complacent and resting on our laurels now that we are in the majority because there continues to be a need for accountability, as the State of the Union address demonstrated last night.

We are going to assert Congress's oversight role, reestablish the system of checks and balances that was totally absent the last number of years. We are going to use the 30-something Working Group forum to be able to do that and also talk about what Democrats are going to do, implement our agenda, talk about the priorities of the American people.

I am so thrilled that we have expanded our ranks and that we have an opportunity to interact and dialogue with you. I can tell you that on election night on November 7, I was cheering very loud that you were coming to join us in the 110th.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to yield to Mr. MURPHY and he is going to give the Web site out and we will be ready to shut down.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Thank you very much. As I said before, coming back from the campaign trail I got to watch the three of you down here, and I think stole a lot of your material. So I am glad to maybe provide a little bit of material for the next crop of 30-somethings.

May I do Mr. RYAN's job today?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Please.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. And give out the Web site for the 30-something Working Group: [www.speaker.gov/30something](http://www.speaker.gov/30something). If you go there, you will get all the good information that we talked about today and participate online in the discussion that we have been having here.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Well, it is an honor to be on the floor with Mr. MURPHY and also Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Being in the majority brings about responsibility for all of us. So we have a lot to do. And Mr. Speaker, we want to thank the Democratic leadership, from the Speaker to the leader to the whip to the chair and the vice chair for allowing us to have this Special Order on the Democratic side. It was an honor addressing the House once again.

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#### FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one if its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1. An act to provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

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#### ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I thought that there was only one speech given in the last century that would become very famous in the few years just ahead of us, and that was the speech given on the 8th day of March in San Antonio, Texas, by M. King Hubbert in 1956, but I just discovered a few days ago a speech which I think may become just about as famous.

This was a speech that was given by the father of the nuclear submarine, Hyman Rickover, and he gave this speech in May 1957. So soon we will reach the 50th anniversary of this very famous speech by the father of the nuclear submarine.

I just wanted to start by reading a couple of things from this speech that he gave. He gave the speech, by the way, to a group of physicians at a banquet of the Annual Scientific Assembly of the Minnesota State Medical Association in St. Paul, Minnesota, May 14, 1957.

The title of the speech had nothing to do with medicine. The title of the