

decreased access to care, and receive lower quality care, when they do have access. As the economy continues to falter and as the unemployment rate spikes, millions of Americans are losing their health insurance. That state of affairs will only make the health disparities worse.

Since I took office over a decade ago, I have worked to secure and support legislation to address the healthcare crisis particularly those facing our struggling Medicare and Medicaid recipients.

I have worked tirelessly to expand health coverage, improve the diversity of our health workforce, improve data collection on health disparities and then help reduce those disparities by promoting accountability and strengthening the institutions that serve minority communities. We must close the gap in our minority, immigrant, and rural communities by addressing the disparities that currently exist.

HEALTH LEGISLATION SPONSORED/COSPONSORED

As a Member of the H.R. 676 Universal Healthcare Caucus lead by Congressman CONYERS, the Women's Caucus, and the Children's Caucus, I have continued to carry the flag of Universal Health Care by introducing or supporting legislation that will help lay the groundwork towards universal access and quality healthcare.

In June, I introduced a health care reform bill that addressed some of the issues that continue to plague our health care system. The MEDICS Act is a House companion bill to Senator BAUCUS's Medicare legislation that sought to unite Congress on a push for crucial Medicare reform.

I am happy to announce that this legislation puts our health care system on the correct path of providing proper medical assistance for our Nation's low income, minority and rural populations. It also works toward resolving the primary care physician shortages as well as the racial and ethnic health disparities.

I have also supported national healthcare legislation such as H.R. 3014 and H.R. 676 which support the elimination of healthcare disparities and universal healthcare based on a single-payer model.

As Americans, we have a strong history, through science and innovation, of detecting, conquering and defeating many illnesses. Quality measures must continue to be adequately funded in order to promote quality, cost-effective health care for consumers and employers.

The Medicare/Medicaid system as well as the private insurance system is still not adequately addressing the cost, population growth, and patient population complexity of Americans. That is why we must look towards another solution.

I urge my colleagues to support our Medicare and Medicaid dependents and vote in support of H. Res. 1368.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today we protect Medicare's future. The rule addresses a provision that was slipped into the Republican Medicare Modernization Act, MMA, in the dark of night. It was not in the version of the bill that was passed by the House or by the Senate. It is yet another example of Republican efforts to choke off Medicare—an automatic "trigger" that requires cuts to the program if general revenues contribute more than 45 percent of Medicare's revenues.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have long tried to end Medicare, and failing

that, to let it wither slowly on the vine. Newt Gingrich said as much in the 1990s, when he was Speaker of the House.

As required by the MMA provision, the President sent a bill to Congress in February with his proposal to meet the trigger requirements. His bill simply shifted costs to patients, and made no improvements to Medicare; a good example of why this "trigger" doesn't work.

Democrats know how to manage Medicare—my father wrote the original bill creating it, and we have been fighting to preserve, improve, and protect the program for nearly 50 years. We do not need gimmicks like an arbitrary "trigger" to do so.

Medicare has protected seniors, improved their health, and helped lift people out of poverty. We must ensure that Medicare beneficiaries continue to have access to their doctor of choice, high-quality hospital care, and prescription drug services.

I support this rule; and I urge my colleagues to eliminate the "trigger" requirements for the remainder of the year.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

REPORT ON H.R. 6599, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-775) on the bill (H.R. 6599) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

TOM LANTOS AND HENRY J. HYDE UNITED STATES GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA RE-AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. BERMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 1362, proceedings will now resume on the motion by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 5501.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When proceedings were postponed earlier today, all time for debate had expired and the previous question was ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from California.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to concur will be followed by 5-minute votes on adoption of H. Res. 1368; and motion to suspend the rules and adopt H. Res. 1296.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 303, nays 115, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 531]

YEAS—303

Abercrombie	Davis (IL)	Israel
Ackerman	Davis, Lincoln	Issa
Aderholt	Davis, Tom	Jackson (IL)
Alexander	DeFazio	Jackson-Lee
Allen	DeGette	(TX)
Altmire	Delahunt	Jefferson
Andrews	DeLauro	Johnson (GA)
Arcuri	Dent	Johnson (IL)
Baca	Diaz-Balart, L.	Johnson, E. B.
Bachus	Diaz-Balart, M.	Jones (OH)
Baird	Dicks	Kagen
Baldwin	Dingell	Kanjorski
Barrow	Doggett	Kaptur
Bean	Donnelly	Kennedy
Becerra	Doyle	Kildee
Berkley	Dreier	Kilpatrick
Berman	Edwards (MD)	Kind
Berry	Edwards (TX)	King (NY)
Biggert	Ehlers	Kirk
Bilirakis	Ellison	Klein (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Ellsworth	Kline (MN)
Bishop (NY)	Emanuel	Knollenberg
Blumenauer	Emerson	Kucinich
Bonner	Engel	Kuhl (NY)
Bono Mack	English (PA)	Lampson
Boozman	Eshoo	Langevin
Boren	Etheridge	Larsen (WA)
Boucher	Farr	Larson (CT)
Boustany	Fattah	Latham
Boyd (FL)	Ferguson	LaTourette
Boyd (KS)	Filner	Lee
Brady (PA)	Forbes	Levin
Bralley (IA)	Fortenberry	Lewis (CA)
Brown, Corrine	Fossella	Lewis (GA)
Butterfield	Foster	Lipinski
Capito	Frank (MA)	Loebsock
Capps	Frelinghuysen	Lofgren, Zoe
Capuano	Gerlach	Lowe
Cardoza	Giffords	Lungren, Daniel
Carnahan	Gilchrest	E.
Carney	Gillibrand	Lynch
Carson	Gonzalez	Mahoney (FL)
Castle	Gordon	Maloney (NY)
Castor	Green, Al	Markey
Cazayoux	Green, Gene	Marshall
Chandler	Grijalva	Matheson
Childers	Gutierrez	Matsui
Clarke	Hall (NY)	McCarthy (NY)
Clay	Hare	McCollum (MN)
Cleaver	Harman	McCotter
Clyburn	Hastings (FL)	McCrery
Cohen	Herseth Sandlin	McDermott
Cole (OK)	Higgins	McGovern
Conyers	Hill	McHugh
Cooper	Hinche	McNerney
Costa	Hirono	McNulty
Costello	Hodes	Meek (FL)
Courtney	Hoekstra	Meeks (NY)
Cramer	Holden	Melancon
Crowley	Holt	Michaud
Cuellar	Honda	Miller (NC)
Cummings	Hoyer	Miller, George
Davis (AL)	Inglis (SC)	Mitchell
Davis (CA)	Inslee	Mollohan