

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, President Barack Obama's chief of staff, Rahm Emanuel, reflected on the administration's lack of focus on the economy earlier this year when he said that our Nation's financial crisis presented an opportunity to accomplish agendas unrelated to the economy.

A good example of that was the so-called stimulus bill that had nothing to do with helping to save or create jobs in the private sector, but everything to do with expanding government programs and pushing our Nation \$787 billion deeper into debt.

The Obama administration and the Congress should be focused on one issue and only one issue, and that is stabilizing our Nation's economy so that Americans can keep the jobs they have and get back the jobs they lost. Only when the economy is stabilized should we be debating other issues such as energy policy and health care reform.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are hurting, and it's time that our President and the Democrats in Congress stop ignoring their pain and get to work on fixing this economy.

#### WASHINGTON IS OUT OF TOUCH

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. It amazes me how out of touch we are in Washington. For months now, my constituents in western New York have been asking, where are the jobs, any jobs?

Well, according to this chart of job postings, we found out where they are: right here in Washington, D.C., as we continue to hire thousands of Federal bureaucrats. It's one of the only cities that's growing, and all for the wrong reasons.

It's appalling that we're continuing to grow the Federal Government while we're running a deficit of \$1.18 trillion.

When I ran a business, you always had a budget, and you lived within it.

When you look around D.C., you see construction cranes all around the skyline. It's because we can't construct enough buildings to house all these Federal bureaucrats that we're now hiring when we have this deficit.

We have to stop this excessive spending and work together to create the right jobs in the right sectors.

#### WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, the enemies of health reform have scoured all of Canada to find a story that fits with their message of "no change, no reform."

But I only have to look to my district, to Sharon Almeida from San

Bruno, who sent me this letter titled, "What's Wrong With This Picture?"

Each month Sharon and her husband, Frank, net \$3,811 from Social Security and pensions. But they pay out nearly \$2,800 for Sharon's cancer treatments. That leaves them just \$1,000 for food, utilities, gas, insurance, never mind a little something for the grandchildren. Thank God they own their own home and no longer have a mortgage.

Mr. Speaker, Sharon and Frank worked hard. They played by the rules and raised a beautiful and supportive family. They do not deserve this.

So, to the critics of reform, I say, let the Canadians worry about the Canadians. It's time we come together to provide real health care reform for Sharon and other hardworking Americans.

#### TROUBLE IN CAPITAL CITY

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, trouble, oh, we got trouble right here in Capital City. With a capital T, and it rhymes with B and that stands for Broke. Right here in Capital City, right here, we've gotta figure out a way to help the Americans we're about to choke.

You've got trouble right here in Capital City. With a capital T, and that rhymes with D and that stands for debt. Right here in Capital City we've got trouble. Remember the millions, the billions, the trillions. And don't you forget, we've got trouble. We're in terrible, terrible trouble. The game of some 256 Members is a devil's bet. Oh, yes, we've got trouble, trouble. Trouble with a T. It rhymes with D, and it stands for Democrat.

#### HEALTH CARE

(Mr. BROWN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it's time for commonsense health care reform that will strengthen free enterprise, lower cost and expand access to affordable quality care.

Unfortunately, at a cost of \$1.28 trillion, Democrats wish to create a new government program that will unwillingly force more than 100 million people out of their current coverage, increase taxes by \$818 billion, and cut 4.7 million jobs.

According to CBO, this legislation would also increase the Federal deficit by \$239 billion over 10 years and, as a result, would ration care, force doctors out of the profession and hospitals out of business, and ultimately provide fewer options and longer waits for patients.

Locally, new health mandates in South Carolina, a State already in financial crisis, would create more unbudgeted costs and reduce funding for other important issues in the State.

Spending so much and accomplishing so little, a government takeover of health care is the wrong direction for all Americans. Republicans have a better plan that expands access to affordable health care and allows families to choose the plan that best fits their needs.

#### CUT TAXES AND CREATE JOBS

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, Continental Airlines, one of the largest employers in Houston, has just laid off 1,700 people. And my friend, Mr. CHRIS LEE of New York, has put together an inspired chart that shows clearly what this liberal leadership of this House and this Congress are doing with our hard-earned tax dollars. They're redistributing the wealth to Washington, D.C., they're creating jobs in the government and Washington and out in NANCY PELOSI land, out in San Francisco and in State capitals across the Nation.

But we fiscal conservatives understand, it's common sense: to create jobs, you cut taxes; you get lawyers and bureaucrats and regulators off the backs and out of the pockets of small business people. We need to cut taxes to create jobs. Do so immediately. We need to cut spending at the Federal level to reduce the level of debt that our children and grandchildren are going to have to pay.

The Inspector General for the Treasury has just reported that these irresponsible bailouts that this liberal majority has passed could cost taxpayers up to \$23.7 trillion on top of the \$60 trillion in unfunded liability that we have already passed on to our kids.

It's time to cut taxes and create jobs and get the government off our backs and out of our pockets.

#### PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM IS WANING

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the more details Americans learn about the government takeover of health care proposed by the President and the liberal leadership of Congress, the less support there is for this insane idea.

A Washington Post-ABC poll shows more than half of this country is opposed to this plan. Yes, support for this crazy deep dive into socialism is fading fast.

The nonpartisan CBO says this plan won't reduce the cost as the President suggested; it will accelerate it. And we know that will kill jobs.

This liberal Congress rammed the stimulus and cap-and-trade, which nobody could read before voting, down the throats of the American people.

But they are now fed up and on to their strategy.

We don't want DMV, Department of Motor Vehicles, style medicine with long waiting lines, delayed care and skyrocketing cancer death rates as in Canada and the UK. We don't want a system that will bankrupt this country and ignore the elderly, and we sure don't want our tax money paying for abortions.

Simply put, we want commonsense health care reform, not nonsense health care reform as now proposed.

□ 1245

#### A TAX ON HEALTH CARE IS A TAX ON PAYROLL

(Mr. BUCHANAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, at the start of this year, the focus has been on economy and jobs, number one.

I was chairman of the Florida Chamber 4 years ago. We represented 137,000 businesses, and 99 percent of those businesses were small business. They create 75 percent of the jobs. Yet, today, we are going to tax health care. It's not a tax on profit. It's a tax on payroll. If you've got a \$1 million payroll making no money, and if you're paying another \$80,000 a year you don't have, you're going to put people out of business.

The other thing they want to put together is a surtax of 5.4 percent on businesses. They want to get to the millionaires. Do you know who those folks are? They're small business people. You wouldn't know that if you've never been in business. That's the majority of them. So you're going to tax the 8 percent. You're going to add another 5.4 percent. You're going to kill millions of businesses, and you're going to kill millions and millions of more jobs. We need to get focused back on the economy and on jobs in America today, right now.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker and Members, I serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee and on the Health Subcommittee. We were in session last night until 12:30, working on this bill. It was beginning to be a bipartisan bill. We accepted Republican amendments; we accepted Democratic amendments, but we have a long way to go. Let me tell you what the facts are in our country.

Forty-three to fifty million people in our country are without health care. They get their health care through the emergency rooms. Do you know who pays for that? Those of us who have insurance, who are fortunate enough to have employer-based insurance, wheth-

er you're a Federal employee, a State employee, a city employee or whether you work for some of the large industries. We have insurance, but 43 to 50 million people don't. Our country's employers and employees spend more per capita than anywhere in the world for some of the worst results for the average illnesses.

We are going to debate a bill in a few minutes by my colleague from California, JOE BACA, on the increase in diabetes in the Hispanic community. Diabetes can be dealt with early on. Our health care system decides to deal with people after they're so ill that it's more expensive. We need health care reform in our country for cost containment but also to make sure that every American doesn't have to get their health care through the emergency rooms.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Americans all over this country are asking: Where are the jobs? We've been promised jobs over and over by the Obama administration and by the majority in this Congress, but unemployment numbers continue to rise.

When the President took office, 11.5 million people were unemployed. Six months later, that number now stands at 14.5 million Americans who are unemployed and who are looking for work. Where are the jobs?

In February, when the majority rammed through a \$1 trillion stimulus bill with zero input from my Republican colleagues, Americans were promised that unemployment would remain at 8 percent. Five months later, unemployment is at 9.6 percent and is climbing. In my home State of Florida, that number is 10.6 percent, the highest it has been in three decades. Where are the jobs?

The stimulus bill is not working, and despite what Vice President BIDEN says, we can't borrow and spend our way out of this recession. Instead of spending trillions of dollars on failed programs and on misled policies, we need to focus on lowering taxes on small businesses and on families. Again, where are the jobs?

#### AMERICAN INNOVATION, NOT REGULATION

(Mr. WAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, the world is looking to us for innovation. That's the goose that lays the golden egg in our country—our free enterprise system, entrepreneurship. They are looking and are saying, American innovation can pull this economy back in a good direction, not regulation. Other

governments are moving away from regulation and high taxation. We're moving towards it. It's innovation, not regulation.

Look at the new cap-and-trade legislation for energy and the environment. It's a regulatory scheme. It's a taxation scheme, not an innovation scheme. Where is nuclear power? Where are the new energy technologies that can lead to a robust, manufacturing-driven, job-creating U.S. economy?

Look at the new health care scheme. It's a regulatory scheme, a taxation scheme and, frankly, a litigation scheme. It's protecting the status quo in litigation. The greatest medical centers in America are saying this government insurance scheme is the wrong approach. We need less litigation. We need to unleash the entrepreneurship and the innovation of the United States again so that we can lead.

Where are the jobs? They're in innovation and in entrepreneurship. They're in our free enterprise system. The government chokes it with regulation, taxation and litigation.

#### A SO-CALLED "STIMULUS"

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, 5 months after this House passed the so-called "stimulus" that shattered spending records, the economy struggles, and unemployment is approaching 10 percent. It's important to remember that Republicans had a different plan for economic recovery. While we didn't have enough votes to pass it, our solution relied on American ingenuity and small business, not on stimulating bigger government by creating government jobs. Our plan would have produced immediate results by putting tax dollars right back in the pockets of American taxpayers and of job creators.

Recently, it was reported that someone in the White House sees the need for another stimulus. Instead of doing the same thing over again and expecting a different result, perhaps it's time to give Republican alternatives a serious look. It's not too late to pass a real stimulus plan.

#### THIS CREDIT CARD CONGRESS

(Mr. CHAFFETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise with deep concern about the families of the United States of America. The economics of this credit card Congress are not working. Where are the jobs?

We cannot tax and spend our way out of our challenges. I firmly believe that President Obama, Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats in Congress are taxing, spending and borrowing too much money. This credit card Congress has now put us nearly \$12 trillion in debt.