His employees take care of the most vulnerable, frail, and least capable people in our society, folks at the end of life, and cutting the service to them should be not something that we ought to do. Physicians in the group say ''first do no harm.'' I would argue that this health care plan ought to do the same thing.

HEALTH CARE BILL IS GOOD FOR YOU IF YOU'RE OVER 65

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

Mr. GRAYSON. Think about what this health care bill will do for you if you are over 65 years old, or if you love somebody who is over 65 years old. If you are over 65, or you love someone who is over 65, a mother or father, then take a minute to think about that.

Here is what it will do for you: First of all, it will dramatically reduce—and in most cases eliminate—copayments for you. That's right, for you. Because the Democrats understand that a $10 or $20 or $50 copayment, that is a lot of money for you. And if it keeps you from going to the doctor when you need to get help, when you need medical care, that's a shame, it shouldn't happen. So this bill takes care of that.

The second thing that the bill does for you is that it eliminates the doughnut hole, that's right, the doughnut hole that torments people into choosing between paying for their rent or paying for the medicine that they need to stay alive. That will no longer be true. The doughnut hole is eliminated.

This bill is good for you if you are 65 or over; it is good for your mother or your father if you're not. That matters a lot because the Democrats care about you.

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS, JOBS: TAKE 2

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

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the administration and this Congress spent over $1 trillion on a so-called stimulus bill, and they laid down a benchmark for what would constitute success. They did it. And according to their own benchmark, that was that unemployment would be capped at 8 percent, and that there would be an immediate creation of 3.5 million jobs.

So where are those 3.5 million jobs that we were promised? Not only have they not been created, an additional 2 million jobs or more have been lost since that bill was passed. And unemployment wasn't capped at 8 percent, it is over 9.5 percent. Again, their own numbers. So, what has been the response to this obvious dismal failure? More of the same, unfortunately; more borrowing, more spending of your hard-earned money.

Now, their health care bill will cost Americans an additional $1.2 trillion, additionally, cut Medicare for senior citizens by hundreds of billions of dollars—that's in the bill—and will result in the loss of an additional 4.7 million jobs.

You know, again, common sense; it's time to stop wasting taxpayers' money, stop irresponsible borrowing. It's time to focus on jobs creation.

HEALTH CARE EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

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

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, skyrocketing private health insurance costs are already crippling small businesses. Last week, I sat down with one of my constituents to hear about her situation. Kristine Effaldana is a small business owner and employs nine workers at her company. She has been paying the full cost of premiums for her employees because she knows how important health insurance is.

Unfortunately, Kristine recently got a call from her broker saying the premiums for covering her nine employees are going up 20 percent in August. Now Kristine is forced to pass on part of that cost to her employees, hire fewer employees, or stop offering them health care altogether. That is the status quo we're dealing with, and it is unacceptable.

We must do more to help small business owners who are trying to do the right thing by providing for their employees. Congress must pass comprehensive health reform to ease their burden.

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A MISGUIDED HEALTH CARE EXPERIMENT

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose efforts by the majority to rush through this Chamber a misguided health care experiment that will cost jobs and put the government in charge of health care. The Democrats' bill will tax small businesses, raise already sky-high unemployment in my State, and cut health care for seniors to pay for government-run health care. This will limit consumer choices, lower quality, increase wait times and imperil the doctor-patient relationship by empowering Federal bureaucrats to make health care decisions. The trillion-and-a-half pricetag will increase the already crushing debt some in Congress have been piling on our children and grandchildren over my objections.

The best way to help expand health coverage to the uninsured is to make health care more affordable. Two of the easiest and most effective ways to do that would be to encourage preventive care and enact medical liability reform. I urge my colleagues to reject this government takeover of health care.

AMERICA'S RECOVERY

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, many commissions who have advised Congress advise that the unemployment rate would continue to climb even after the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act were approved, simply because neglect and measures that put us into a deep hole where an administration spent down a surplus into a deep deficit was going to take a while to recover from. And so now with the investments made through that Recovery Act, I am very hopeful that in my district we will get good news, as GE, which is corporately headquartered in my district, has made application for some of the DOE moneys.

Because of accountability and transparency, the President is right to make certain that all of these moneys being released are greatly accounted for. Battery investment, battery advance manufacturing in battery worlds, will allow for a diversity of battery manufacturing that will allow us not only to have these batteries used for energy generation purposes, but for actually providing for the resources for transportation fleets, both large and small, and certainly working on investments that will restore intermittent energy supplies.

COMPROMISE ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, the Democratic leadership is reportedly trying to find a compromise on health care reform. The only problem is they're compromising with themselves rather than with Republicans. Democrats have been trying to blame their failure to find broad consensus on health care reform on Republicans, but this ignores the facts. The facts are three committees and the House Democratic leadership sat down and drafted a bill with no Republican input. These same Democratic leaders have then made changes to the bill based on concerns raised by other Democrats. Now, Democratic leaders are continuing their negotiation with a different group of Democrats in an attempt to secure 218 votes in their own caucus.

Since Republicans aren't invited to these negotiations, here's some free advice from the House floor: If you're having this much trouble getting the majority of your conference to support