

under the flight path an Iranian missile would take if shot at the American people.

The U.N. reports that Iran has accelerated its production of uranium. And last February, Iran became the first new nation to orbit a satellite when its newest and most powerful missile worked. Iran, a state sponsor of terror, now makes the longest range missile of the terrorist world.

The administration's decision is particularly ironic because Poland just announced it would be sending more troops to serve alongside Americans in Afghanistan. America is going to let Poland down, sending a message of weakness to our Polish allies and the people building Iran's new missile arsenal.

CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, today marks the 222nd anniversary of the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, one of the most important documents ever written. This historic day coincides with the historic debate now taking place in this Chamber and in communities across the Nation over how we can solve our health care crisis.

So I thought it might be useful to reference the sections of our Nation's foundational document that empower this legislature and this government to act in the best interests of the Nation rather than sit idly by while our health care system spirals out of control.

From the preamble in which "We the people of the United States" established the Constitution to, among other purposes, "promote the general welfare," to article I, which gives Congress all of the legislative powers granted in the Constitution, the legislators—rightly elected by the people of the Republic—have the ability to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying out our enumerated powers. Among those are providing for the common defense and general welfare, the promotion of the progress of science and the arts, and the regulation of commerce, each of these directly pertaining to our health care crisis.

It is time for us to act pursuant to the Constitution.

HEALTH CARE POLLS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, following President Obama's address to a joint session of Congress about health care, the national media touted polls showing a bump in public approval of the President's health care plan, but the media failed to point out that the polls vastly oversampled

Democrats. For example, a CBS poll last week trumpeted "a 12-point improvement" in the President's approval rating on health care following his speech. CBS failed to mention that Democrats outnumbered Republicans in the poll sample by 15 percentage points, far greater than the actual party identification gap.

Worse, a CNN poll touted a "double-digit post-speech jump" for the President, but the poll oversampled Democrats by more than a 2-1 margin.

When questioning far more Democrats than Republicans, it should come as no surprise that poll results favor a liberal Democratic agenda. The media should be objective and not intentionally slant their polling data.

NATIONAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, there was a lot of bloviating on the Republican side yesterday about the government takeover of the student loan business. What nonsense. I mean, what we are going to do is stop subsidizing the banks. That's what the Republicans are really upset about here.

Today, for every dollar in student loans, the taxpayers are dinged 15 cents—subsidies to the banks. If we convert to a National Direct Student Loan Program—the minority of the loans today go through that—for every dollar we lend to a student we will get back \$1.03.

Now, they want to run government like a business, but their idea of a business is shoveling subsidies to the private sector. I want to run government like a business. I want to give more loans to students, more effectively, at lower cost to the taxpayers. That's the National Direct Student Loan Program. This is a reform that's long overdue. Stop crying about the subsidies to the banks.

□ 1015

MANDATES ARE NOT THE ANSWER TO HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. PENCE. Yesterday, Democrats in the Senate unveiled a much anticipated new compromise on health care reform, and as my late father used to say, "Here comes the new guy. He looks a lot like the old guy."

The compromise for government-run insurance is more government-run insurance, but I rise this morning to draw particular attention to a proposal in the compromise that would force Americans who don't have health insurance to buy it. Under the proposal, everybody would be forced to buy government-approved policies, and if you

don't, families could face tax penalties of \$3,800 per year and, individuals, \$950 if they don't comply. Well, none other than candidate for President, now President, Barack Obama opposed such mandates.

He said in a primary debate in January of '08 that you can mandate it, but there are still going to be people who can't afford it, and if they can't afford it, the question is: What are you going to do about it?

More memorably, the President said on CNN's American Morning in February of '08 that if a mandate were the solution, we could try to solve homelessness by mandating everybody to buy a house.

Mr. President, I couldn't have said it better myself. The President was right. Mandates are not the answer. Let's scrap this government-run insurance plan and work in a bipartisan way to lower costs without more government, more mandates and more taxes.

THE STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT WILL HELP AMERICA MOVE FORWARD

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

Mr. COHEN. Today, the House will vote on the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. It's an important bill to help education in our country.

It will give higher Pell Grant amounts to students who need more money to make it through college. It will put moneys in the community colleges for fiscal improvements and also into K-12s for fiscal improvements. It will help Historically Black Colleges and Universities, which are suffering a great deal at this time and need that help.

There is so much that this bill will do to help us move forward and save \$10 billion towards the deficit. It will take moneys from the private sector, which has been making money off of student loans, and it will provide opportunities for students and education. It will repeal a draconian provision that particularly hurts minorities and others who can't get student loans because of Federal laws for simple possession violations of criminal laws. That shouldn't happen, and those students should have the opportunity to get college grants and loans and to go on and improve themselves and to make more of themselves.

I look forward to voting for this bill which will help America move forward.

CZARS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, since being sworn in, the President has appointed 34 czars—the health czar, the car czar, an urban czar, a Great Lakes czar. These are just to