The doctor, because he still has the chance of judicial action hanging over his head, was advised by his attorney to answer all questions by taking the Fifth Amendment. Now I don't want to say what I think should be the case on his license. That is still being reviewed and is yet to be officially decided by the DEA. Nor do I think I have the competence to make a lot of these decisions. What I do know is that, in my opinion, this doctor is no threat to the community. That opinion is backed up by the majority of the physicians in the community whose sworn depositions say the same thing.

I do know that this family, since June of 2008, has been terrorized, his profession destroyed, reputation besmirched and his property confiscated. Yes, he went back to court to get some of it back, but why did he have to do that? Yes, if the DEA decides to take his license, he can go to court to have that overturned as well, but why should he have to do that? Justice, if it is to be there, should be a justice that works quickly so that he is charged, he goes before a jury of his peers and a conviction or an acquittal takes place. This nightmare of delay is nothing more than that for this poor family.

Now the good part of this message is this is an isolated case. This is not the way most things happen. The bad part of this message is this is not a unique case. Other times this same thing has happened. Citizens should not be treated in this way. It's simply the wrong way to do it. The Mackay family deserves all of his resources returned to him until such time as a conviction does take place. He also deserves some kind of an apology, neither of which I have the power to do. But I do have the power to at least express my sympathies for one of my constituents whom I do not think has been treated well. And if as a representative of my constituents I cannot at least do that, I have no more value in this particular body.

This ends the trilogy of this particular family. It does not end the nightmare of this family. I hope it can end soon for their benefit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PENCE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MOVE THE VIETNAM HUMAN RIGHTS BILL NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CAO. Madam Speaker, in 1620, 102 Pilgrims and a crew of approximately 25 people left England on the Mayflower to escape religious oppression. After an arduous 66-day journey plagued by disease, they landed on the shore of Plymouth and founded this great Nation.

The story of the Mayflower is a symbol of the struggle against religious oppression, and the symbol still resonates in the hearts and minds of the American people today. But this struggle for religious freedom did not end with the Mayflower. The struggle continues today worldwide in countries such as Tibet, China, the Sudan and Vietnam. Two days ago, I had the great honor of speaking to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He encouraged the U.S. Congress to continue speaking out against religious oppression and to stand up and defend the values that founded our great Nation. This is what I'm doing today.

Madam Speaker, the country that I would like to challenge today, and have done many times previously, is Vietnam. Vietnam, for decades, has exemplified religious and human rights oppression. And this image today has not changed. Since receiving its preferred status and being selected a member of the World Trade Organization, Vietnam's record on human rights and religious freedom has gotten worse rather than better. This regression is well documented by Human Rights Watch as well as by the Commission on Religious Freedom.

Madam Speaker, let me briefly outline for you what the Vietnamese Government has done. Ten years ago, the Vietnamese Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Affairs directly oversaw and operated two state-owned labor companies that were involved in the largest human trafficking case ever prosecuted by the U.S. Department of Justice. The High Court of American Samoa rendered a judgment against the Vietnamese Government in the amount of $3.5 million, and they have yet to pay.

Recently, the Vietnamese Government assaulted, arrested and imprisoned dozens of Catholics in the Diocese of Vinh for erecting a temporary place of worship on Tam Toa Parish Church that was destroyed during the Vietnam war. They attacked the parishioners of Thai Ha Parish as they were conducting a prayer service. They then arrested and wrongfully prosecuted church members for inciting riot. They imprisoned Father Nguyen Van Ly, put the Venerable Thich Quang Do under house arrest, and forced members of Protestant churches to renounce their faith. They arrested and imprisoned human rights activists such as Le Cong Dinh, Le Thi Cong Nhan, and Nguyen Van Dai for criticizing the government. They forcefully evicted 400 Buddhist monks and nuns from Bat Nha Temple and shut down the monastery without just cause.

These are just a few examples of the outrageous and egregious actions taken by the Vietnamese Government recently in violation of every principle of justice and fairness. If these examples are not sufficient to draw our attention and condemnation, I do not know what will.

Unfortunately for these oppressed people, our world today does not allow them to simply leave their country to establish a country of freedom elsewhere. That is why they need the assistance of a country like ours, the most powerful democratic country in the world, to speak on their behalf.

We must speak loudly by passing the Vietnam Human Rights Bill. The longer we wait, the longer people like Venerable Thich Quang Do, Father Nguyen Van Ly, Mr. Le Cong Dinh and countless others like them will continue to suffer.

HEALTH CARE REFORM—ONE GIRL'S TESTIMONY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The House bill to have government take over health care contains section 2511 which would put clinics in our schools. Minnesota has experience with these clinics.

Here is one girl's testimony:

''Hi. My name is Jamie. I hope my personal story and experience with the West Suburban Teen Clinic will convince you that bringing this clinic into the school campus will endanger the health of many students.

''At age 14, I was what you could describe as a rebellious teen. My parents had rules, like all parents, and tried their best to instill moral values in my life they hoped would guide me down the right road. But I chose a path that led to the West Suburban Teen Clinic. It was there I learned how easy it was to get birth control, morning-after pills, exams, condoms, or whatever else I needed to have sex and not tell my parents. I didn't even have to go to a real doctor.

''At the clinic, I was told my parents didn't have to know about any of my visits or what birth control the school clinic was giving me. The clinic made it so easy for me to have sex. They made it so easy to hide things from my mom and dad. After all, since it was my right not to tell them about birth control, they didn't need to know anything else about my life either. The teen clinic opened the door for me to lie and supported me in my deception. Looking back, I can see that their counseling affirmed a continuous pattern of lying, secrets, and cover-up. This destroyed any mutual trust between my parents and me.

''The West Suburban Teen Clinic convinced me I was doing a good thing by going there because I was practicing safe sex. Was it safe to break the trust with the only people who really truly protected and cared about me? Was it safe when the clinic jumped at the chance to give the morning-after pill to a 14-year-old without revealing to

me any of the negative health-risking side effects?

''They didn't even care who I was having sex with. Imagine, a 14-year-old. I could have been having sex with an older man. It could have been rape. Anything. They never once took the time to ask me. I was so young. All I thought was, oh, I won't be getting pregnant if I take this morning-after pill. I was never given the facts about side effects.

''I went to the West Suburban Teen Clinic multiple times to get the morning-after pill. They would ask me if I needed a couple of back-up pills to keep in a friend's house just in case, or to hide at my own house so I wouldn't have to ride all the back way back to the clinic.

''I can honestly say that the clinic visits also had a very negative effect on my education. As I became more involved sexually and had more visits to the clinic, I would sit in class thinking about what courses and classes I could miss so I could make my school clinic visit for more pills and condoms before the end of the school day. It made it difficult for me to focus on my class assignments when I was thinking about a pelvic exam or the thought of having an STD or being pregnant.

''Now I'm 20 years old. I'm very concerned about the long-term damage to my health thanks to this so-called safe-sex clinic. They not only helped me hide things from my mom and dad, they hid the truth from me. The West Suburban Teen Clinic didn't care that I was a minor teen. They didn't care what the side effects of these pills would do to my reproductive system. And my body is messed up. They gave me pills and condoms and they left it to my parents to pick up the pieces.

''If only I knew what I know now, how the West Suburban Teen Clinic's advice and pills damaged me physically and emotionally, I could have prevented so many of the problems with my parents and my family. If only I had never gone there. And now you are bringing these clinics to all the high schools?

''You need to protect kids. You need to uphold the desires of parents, not the wishes of clinics that make money off kids' mistakes. My parents tried to protect me. The clinic took that right away. They took over the role that my parents were intended to have and they hid everything from them, the people who loved me the most.

''Please stop this clinic from coming in and ruining more kids' lives. I wish I could warn all the students at high schools about these clinics. They need to know about the physical and emotional damage that can be done by a pattern of pills and promiscuity. I wish I could tell them. I know the West Suburban Clinic won't.''

Madam Speaker, this is a story of tragedy by one girl in Minnesota. Minnesota has experience with the school-based sex clinics that are being proposed in the bill that would have government take over health care in this country. Surely we can do better by our children than encouraging them to gain experience in a lifestyle that will bring them only heartache and perhaps physical devastation.

THE PROGRESSIVE MESSAGE—HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, we are here again for another evening with the progressive message, the message that comes to the House floor Thursday night to talk about a vision of America not based on fear, not based on things that are not true, but a vision of an America where we stand up and we include everybody within this vision. No matter what color, what culture, or what faith you belong to, America is a place for you. We bring people from all parts of the world who bring and make up this great American vision that we're talking about, a progressive vision where middle-class and working-class people can actually have policies that help them, a progressive vision which says we can have health care for all. We can have true health care reform which allows Americans to partake of the great wealth of this country for the benefit of their health. A progressive vision says that America can live at peace. We don't have to be in war after war. We can have a policy of peace which develops our relationship with the rest of the world based on diplomacy, development and things of mutual benefit.

Today this is the progressive message, and we are glad to be here with the progressive message sponsored by the Progressive Caucus.

□ 1645

Tonight, what is the topic? Guess what, surprise, health care. Today we have two great advocates and leaders, and I am so honored to be on the House floor today with two good friends and leaders, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and also the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) of the Ways and Means Committee who is also a physician, both with us today. I want to invite both of them to offer some remarks as we get started on the Progressive message today, focusing on health care reform, patients before profits.

Congressman, Doctor, what are your thoughts?

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. ELLISON, it is a pleasure to be here today. In the caucus the other day we were talking about health care, and one thing that is very clear in this country is that the medical-industrial complex doesn't want to change. They want things as they are. They would be glad to take additional money to cover people, but they want to go through the private sector. Let's just keep grinding out the profits, never mind what happens to the patients.

This effort that is being made in the House, and I hope to have a bill out here in 10 days or so, is an effort to make sure that what you just suggested happens. That is, that everybody in this country has health care that is adequate, that takes care of the needs they have, no matter how much money they have, no matter what they look like, no matter where they live. They should have the same kind of health care in this country no matter what their circumstances are.

I told the story, I said one of the things that people tell me: Everybody in this country gets health care. What are you talking about?

What I said to my colleague when he said that to me, you know, the difference between Members of Congress and ordinary folks in this society is, we live a somewhat different life. If you call up and say, This is Dr. MCDERMOTT or Congressman MCDERMOTT, I have a pain in my stomach, they will tell me to come into the office tomorrow morning. Everybody else goes through this little drill. When you call the doctor's office and say, I have a pain in my stomach, the first question is, What kind of insurance do you have?

Now if you have private insurance, you will be in the office tomorrow morning. If you have Medicare, well some doctors don't take Medicare, so it may be a week before you get taken care of. God forbid if you have Medicaid, you will never get taken care of. Or it will be a month or a month and a half. And if you don't have health insurance, they have an offer for you: If you will come in and pay $25 or $30 upfront, we will have an appointment for you in 2 weeks.

People say that isn't true. Well, let me tell you, there are very well-documented studies, and they put people on two phones sitting right next to each other, they would call the same doctor's office, give the same story about a pain in their stomach, and find out what the relationship there was between what kind of insurance they had and when they got seen.

Now, it shouldn't be that way in this country. If you are sick and you have pain in your stomach, you ought to be able to get in and see a doctor.

What clearly happens in that case, for those people who have to wait 2 weeks or a month or whatever, they go along with that pain in their stomach waiting for their appointment, waiting for their appointment. When they can't stand it any longer, they go to the emergency room. That is why emergency rooms are flooded with things that ought to be seen in a doctor's office, but people can't find a way, they can't find a doctor that will accept them.

Well, I told this story, and one of my colleagues came up to me and said, You