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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, we have been told that the public option is now back on the table, but we have to call it by some other name. Well, I have done a little work on the criminal justice side, and we used to have something called prior acts evidence. You look at what someone has done in the past and you see how that allows you to interpret what they are doing now.

So let's look at what we have done with the issue of student loans. Oh, yes, we got rid of the private option for student loans this month, because the President and the Democrats said the government has to take it over. And now we have in this bill an effort to try and get rid of the only private option in Medicare. It is called Medicare Advantage.

But forget about that, because when they tell us now the private option is just an option for competition and they are not going to take over by government the health care system, trust them with that. Forget about the prior evidence. Give them the benefit of the doubt.

The American people aren't fooled. They look at what they have done before, they look at what they are doing now, and they are telling us, help us stop them. Help us stop them.

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, you know, I will tell you what is scary. What is scary is the woman who came into my office a few weeks ago who shared her story with me to tell me about her breast cancer experience that she had just been through for the third time. She told me how I as a breast cancer survivor was fortunate because when I was diagnosed all I had to worry about was fighting the cancer. When she was diagnosed, she also one day later lost her job and, with it, her health insurance. So not only did she have to battle breast cancer, but she also was faced with battling how she was going to get her health care taken care of so she could get well from breast cancer and continue to be the survivor that she has been for many, many years.

Americans are tired of the party of ''no.'' Americans are tired of obstacle after obstacle standing at that podium insisting on making up things that just aren't true.

There are bills out there that are available and accessible to anyone to look at. This has been an open and transparent process. But the bottom line is there are 46 million people that don't have health insurance. We need to provide stability and security to those that do and bring the costs down.

I challenge our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to work with us on true health care reform, instead of being the party of ''no.''

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I come from northwest Ohio. I know that many of my colleagues from around this House go home every weekend, and it wasn't very long ago I was home and I was speaking with one of our small business owners.

He came up to me and said, Bobby, I have a question to ask you. He said, Where are we on this health care?

I told him. I said, This is where it looks like we are going.

He said, Do you think it is going to pass?

I said, I am not really sure right now.

But he said, You know what? I am going to tell you something. I have been trying to read these bills to the best of my ability to find out what is in them. I am going to tell you right now, if this bill passes, there is no way I can survive. I am going to have to close up.

We are talking about people and their health care, and it is very important. There is not one person in this Chamber that would say we should not be doing something about health care in this country. But we also have people out there trying to put jobs out there so people can work. And when I looked around that business where he was, you start saying, Where are these people going to go after this? We have over 10 percent unemployment in Ohio, and it is getting tougher. The worst is yet to come.

Mr. Speaker, the American people want health care reform, but we have to do it responsibly.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the people may be wondering what is going on here today. Well, you are watching the charge of the light brigade. The Republicans believe that they can just throw themselves into it and they will stop it. But they are not going to stop it.

The other night, Tuesday night, New York City, a friend of mine had a problem. He called a doctor's office and got the first question, which is always, What kind of insurance do you have?

He said, Well, I don't have any insurance. I am from out of the country.

They said, Oh, well, you can come in and see the doctor, but you have to bring $250 in cash or the doctor will not see you.

He said, I don't have that kind of cash.

They said, Well, tough luck. Go to the emergency room.

Now, that is the health care system that my colleagues in the light brigade want to protect. Keep trying to protect it, guys. It ain't going to work. The American people want a change, and they are going to get one.

□ 1300

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded that the rules of the House require that Members address their comments to the Chair.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, as a substitute for a plan that actually controls health care costs, the Senate majority leader has devised a gimmick. Under the plan announced yesterday, the Federal Government imposes billions of dollars of taxes on all 50 States, imposes billions in unfunded mandates via the Medicaid program, increasing the debt load of every citizen, creating a new government-run insurance program that, according to the CBO's official analysis, is more expensive than the status quo. Individual States can opt out, but their citizens cannot opt out of the taxes, and they can't opt out of the debt, and they can't opt out of the job losses that will result from these higher taxes and debt.

Real reform will not require gimmicks or job loss. States should not have to pass laws to save themselves. Real health reform lowers costs by empowering patients. If we give patients direct control over health care dollars and the information they need for value-conscious decisions, we will have reform.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, the debate we're having today is between two groups—those who believe we can improve America and those who believe we can't improve America. We believe we can improve American energy; they believe we can't. We believe we can improve health care; they believe we can't. We believe we can stop insurers from preventing us from having coverage because we have a preexisting condition; they believe we can't. We need some more Republicans and fewer Republican'ts because saying we can't improve America is not up to the standards that America was built on. We can stop insurance companies. Let's get some more of these Republican'ts to become Republicans and help us reform health care in this country.