

did in the health care bill here in the House, and not intrude into so many areas, including the requirement, a shall, one of the many shalls it required was a study by the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the Secretary of Labor shall conduct a study of businesses.

And it goes through a list of different things they are supposed to look for, the kind of benefits the employees get. And one of them is whether or not particular companies are making decisions that will allow them to remain solvent. It is government at an intrusion like never seen before in this country.

Mr. CARTER. Thank you, Mr. GOHMERT. Reclaiming my time, Mr. KING, I think we have about 3 minutes. Do you want to be heard very briefly?

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the judge from Texas, and I appreciate the chance to address you, Mr. Speaker, here on the floor of the House.

I tell you, I am full of amazement that the President of the United States can make a proposal that he wants to come out here and negotiate on health care, and yet he doesn't want to negotiate on health care. He insists on bringing forward one or another of the bills that passed the House or the Senate, but he apparently doesn't have a bill yet. Bill Clinton had a bill. Hillary Clinton actually had a bill. This President actually doesn't have a bill. He has a position.

We asked him if he was going to keep his word and present his legislation at least 72 hours before it would be voted on. It is quite interesting that the platitudes that the President has released in bullet points this morning at 10 o'clock happens to be 72 hours precisely until such time as the meeting starts at the Blair House on Thursday at 10 o'clock in the morning. So there is 72 hours to digest some platitudes, but all the while that is going on, and you have spoken of it very well, then the secret meetings have been taking place in the White House and wherever. This is something that is clearly being done behind closed doors, in formerly smoke-filled rooms, with guards on the outside, albeit there for the security of the people inside the room. We don't know what went on in there.

But the President is not coming to the table looking to negotiate. The President is coming to the table looking to put the reconciliation gun to our head, cock the hammer and say, you can say "yes" on Thursday or we are going to pull the trigger on reconciliation. That is the nuclear option. That is the thing that was intolerable when Republicans discussed it, and I would like to think it is going to end up being intolerable to the American people. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. CARTER. That is a great summary. And that is exactly what the American people need to be looking for. They need to be looking for those words, reconciliation, because the truth is the real loaded gun that is

going to be held to the heads of those who go to negotiate is reconciliation, which will mean we are not interested in Republican input, and we are going to bypass it.

RESTORE FISCAL DISCIPLINE

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

They say that talk is cheap, but for hardworking Americans, the President's talk is very expensive. President Obama has spent the past year making speech after speech about the need for Washington to restore fiscal discipline. But what he says isn't what he does.

During the campaign, Obama promised he would go through the budget line by line to reduce spending. But it seems as though a few lines is all that he has cut. The President began his campaign last spring when he rushed to the microphone to announce his order to his cabinet to reduce spending by \$100 million. Then he went to the podium to tout more fiscal restraint by announcing a spending freeze. But we quickly learned that it affects less than 20 percent of the budget.

Recent press reports reveal he cut \$1 million in funding for an Olympic scholarship program, and another \$2 million subsidy for cotton and peanuts. If the President is serious about fiscal discipline, he is going to have to remove more than a couple of peanuts from his Federal budget. These meager cuts are just another example of the administration's arrogance, ignorance, and incompetence.

The President has proposed a \$3.8 trillion budget for 2011, boosting the deficit to a record high of \$1.6 trillion, a record he broke last year when he introduced a budget with a \$1.4 trillion deficit. Let me put that into perspective. The average deficit when Republicans were in power was \$104 billion. The average deficit now that Democrats are in control is \$1.1 trillion. What that means is each man, woman, and child owes \$46,000 apiece.

As hardworking Americans are struggling to balance their checkbooks, they are frustrated that Congress can't do the same. They aren't just frustrated, they are angry. I share the concerns of the American people. That is why I have introduced H.J. Resolution 75, which is a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution, aimed at reining in the chronic deficits in spending.

We absolutely must stop the outrageous spending by Congress. Our children and grandchildren's future depend upon our doing so. My amendment would make sure that government does not spend more than it takes in. My amendment would also make sure that any extra revenue would be returned to the taxpayers at the end of the year.

After decades of deficit spending it is time to make balancing our budgets the rule, not the exception. For too long Congress has acted as if it has a credit card with no limit and a bill that our children and grandchildren will be forced to pay. Individuals cannot spend more money than they earn, and neither should Washington. The fact is if the family budget cannot afford to go into debt, neither should the Federal budget.

The only way we are ever going to get our economy back on track is by leaving dollars in the hands of individuals, and particularly leaving dollars in the hands of small businesses so that they can buy inventory and can hire permanent employees. Small business is the economic engine that pulls along the train of prosperity in America. We need to stimulate small business, not bigger government.

Congress must now make tough decisions, slow down the rapid growth of government, and get back to the fiscally responsible government that the American people expect and demand. I am committed to doing just that. I urge my colleagues to join in this effort, and I urge the American people to demand a balanced budget from this Congress.

DEFENDING THE CONSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I appreciate being recognized to address you here on the floor of the House of Representatives. I appreciate my colleagues that have spoken in the hour previous and those that will perhaps join me in the hour that ensues at this point.

As one can tell from listening to that dialogue, we can clearly see that there is a high degree of concern about the direction America is going. I would like to get into that pretty deeply, but I also recognize that my friend from Georgia has something left unsaid, and so I would be very happy to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Thank you, Mr. KING. I appreciate you yielding.

You have a document there that I know you are going to explain it, but I want to say before I have to leave that my name is on that document. It is the Declaration of Health Care Independence. In fact, I recently signed a copy of the Declaration of Independence. I was honored to do so, as I was honored to sign the Declaration of Health Care Independence.

But what I want to say is the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States cannot be separated. And in fact, the Declaration of Independence in itself, the original declaration penned by Thomas Jefferson, set out the philosophies of