

Problem is, for anyone who has paid attention during the past 12 months, the message about the biggest government expansion into health care in our lifetime just doesn't add up.

Let's contrast fact from fiction and the language used in the new flier:

"The Affordable Care Act passed by Congress and signed by President Obama this year will provide you and your family greater savings and increased quality of care."

Fact: Most Americans will pay higher insurance premiums, according to the Congressional Budget Office. And more than 10 million seniors will see reduced benefits under their private Medicare Advantage plans. Overall quality will decline as fewer doctors take on Medicare patients.

"Your guaranteed Medicare benefits won't change—whether you get them through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan."

Fact: Medicare Advantage, a private option in Medicare, will be cut by \$136 billion. On April 22, the chief actuary for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reported that half of all seniors enrolled in Medicare Advantage would lose their coverage under the new health care bill by 2017. The guarantee that benefits won't change isn't a guarantee at all for millions of seniors who prefer using private insurance companies that provide their Medicare coverage.

"Your choice of doctors will be preserved."

Fact: Cuts to Medicare will total nearly \$500 billion, hitting hospitals, home health providers, physicians and more. Doctors throughout the country have seen their Medicare payments reduced in recent years and expect more cuts in the future because of ObamaCare.

A February survey by three national neurosurgeon groups, for example, showed that 50% of neurosurgeons were reducing the number of Medicare patients they were accepting into their practice. The Mayo Clinic in Arizona has also started turning away Medicare patients. Other physicians are following suit. How is this preserving a senior's choice of doctors?

"If you're hospitalized, the new law also helps you return home successfully and avoid going back—by helping to coordinate your care and connecting you to services and supports in your community."

Fact: This is traditionally known as "home health care"—a program that helps treat patients at home for a short period. But in the ObamaCare plan, home health care will be cut by \$40 billion. Another contradiction in terms.

Last fall, the federal government launched an investigation into Humana for sending letters to seniors who were customers of the Medicare Advantage program during the health care debate.

It urged them to contact their congressman or senator because of the then-proposed cuts to the program. Under threat of shutting down the insurance company's contract with Medicare, Humana was told to stop sending such information out to its customers.

Yet today, we have the federal government offering its spin and fabrication on ObamaCare with no one holding it accountable. It is trying to convince seniors that despite almost half a trillion dollars in cuts, the new law "preserves and strengthens Medicare." Precious tax dollars are being spent on a public relations campaign to try to convince seniors that ObamaCare will keep "Medicare strong and solvent."

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Record numbers of baby boomers will start retiring this year and draw Social Security benefits and sign up for Medicare. They are smart enough to understand that ObamaCare

is not a good deal for their golden years. A four-page brochure will not change their minds either. It will take more for this administration to "prove it" than a glossy, four-page pamphlet.

Gingrich, former speaker of the House, is founder of the Center for Health Transformation. Desmond is the center's CEO.

## WORLD CANNOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO IRAN'S REPRESSION OF ITS OWN PEOPLE

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 10, 2010*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, a recent Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) article featured comments from Iranian-American journalist Roxana Saberi who spent 100 days in Iran's notorious Evin prison between February and May 2009 on espionage charges.

Saberi indicated that the day of her release was bittersweet, saying, "As they drove me away, I remember turning my head to the side and seeing the prison disappear behind me. And finally, I cried . . . I realized, however, that my tears were not just tears of joy, but they were also tears of sorrow for the many innocent prisoners I was leaving behind. Why was I freed while all these others are still there?"

Among those she was leaving behind were the two female Baha'i leaders who have been in jail for more than two years on baseless charges—Fariba Kamalabadi and Mahvash Sabat.

There are news reports that these two, in addition to the five male Baha'i leaders, are scheduled to have their fourth court session on Saturday, June 12—the same day as the anniversary of Iran's deeply flawed presidential election.

The RFE/RL article continues, "Saberi believes the media attention and international support she received during her ordeal led to her release."

Saberi's comments are consistent with the reflections of dissidents dating back to the Cold War. Time and again those who are unjustly languishing in prison have reported that their lives improved in captivity when President Reagan and others raised their cases by name. And in some instances, their freedom followed soon thereafter.

The U.S. and the rest of the free world must continue to speak with one voice about the deplorable human rights situation in Iran. We must continue to advocate for due process and a fair trial for these seven Baha'i leaders and for basic rights for the community as a whole which according to the recently released report of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, "has long been subject to particularly severe religious violations in Iran."

The world cannot turn a blind eye to this regime's brutal repression of its own people.

## ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION 3 OF THE SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING

**HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 10, 2010*

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the State of Wyoming for enacting a resolution in support of the 10th Amendment to the Constitution. Enrolled Joint Resolution 3 of the Sixtieth Legislature of the State of Wyoming demands that Congress cease and desist from enacting mandates that are beyond the enumerated powers granted to the Congress by the United States Constitution.

This resolution joins a groundswell of support across America for a return to the federalist principles in our Constitution. I am proud to insert this resolution into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on behalf of the people of Wyoming.

Citizens, businesses and States across the country are bracing for the impact of the heavy handed government mandates in President Obama's healthcare plan. Momentum persists among some in Congress for additional federal mandates, taxes, and regulations that will burden State budgets and put entrepreneurs in Main Street America out of business.

There is another way. Our nation's founders left us a recipe for freedom and opportunity in our Constitution, under which the people of the United States consented to a government with limited powers. As stated in the 10th Amendment, all powers not given to the federal government by the Constitution are reserved for the States and the people. I have co-founded in the House of Representatives a 10th Amendment Task Force to advance the principles of federalism and disperse power back to States, local governments and individuals.

Before coming to Washington, I spent my entire adult life dealing with State issues—as a rancher, as a State legislator, and as State Treasurer. I am now astounded by the kinds of issues Members of Congress feel are appropriate for federal intervention.

States know their people better. They know their issues better. Let's return to States what States do best and maintain a strong limited government in Washington to do what it does best—securing the freedom, strength and integrity of this country.

## OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 10, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,046,148,615,770.79.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,407,722,869,476.99 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.