

GYN, pediatrician without needing a referral from another doctor. Now, that's a good thing. You can choose your own doctor. That's great. You can use the nearest emergency room without paying a penalty. That's good.

One time I was trying to pull some weeds from under my lawnmower, and I stupidly let my hand drift up under the lawnmower. Cut my finger. I had to go to the nearest emergency room. What if I would have went there and they said, You know what? You need to go somewhere else. I was in serious pain—although my injury wasn't nearly as serious as other people who have been shot, who are in cardiac arrest, who've been sent to other emergency rooms. Now you can go to the nearest emergency room without paying a penalty. That's a good thing.

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So, Madam Speaker, I just want to say tonight that the real Republican agenda isn't about smaller government, lower taxes. It's about bigger government and lower taxes for rich people. That's what they're about. That's the Republican agenda. More debt and lower taxes for the well-to-do. And, again, in America we don't scorn our well-to-do, we just want them to pony up and help out like everybody else. The real Republican agenda is really they'll be happy to get rid of a job if it would help a corporate executive save a buck or earn a buck. It's about blowing up the deficit by adding \$700 billion to the deficit to give tax breaks to the richest 2 percent of Americans.

The real Republican agenda is about putting insurance companies back in charge of your health care, which the Democrats took them away from. It's about privatizing and cutting Social Security, and it's about repealing Wall Street reform. This is not good. We need to change.

The progressive message tonight is about Democrats are working together with the President to provide tax cuts for middle class Americans. And the progressive message is about health care, it's about financial reform, it's about protecting you and your money with the consumer protection agency. It's about a lot of important things to help the quality of life for Americans, Americans of all colors, all cultures, and all faiths, Americans who serve in our Nation's military, who serve us as public employees, Americans who are looking out for us every day to live a high quality of life, to send their kids to school and have a chance at education, to have a decent, respectable retirement, to have some health care, to be able to earn a decent living. That's what the progressive message is all about. That's what the Democratic caucus is all about.

And I think, Madam Speaker, that Americans need to look really, really hard and ask some very tough questions of our Republican colleagues because that's not what they're about.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010, TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

Mr. ELLISON (during his Special Order). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Friday, September 24, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

PRAISING THE NORTH CAROLINA SCIENCE FESTIVAL AND 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, today I want to pay tribute to the USA Science and Engineering Festival and the North Carolina Science Festival. The goal of these nonprofit, private sector-driven festivals is simple: present science to America's youth in a way that is hands-on, interactive, and inspiring.

From the Carolina coast to the mountains, scores of events will take place in the coming weeks to celebrate science. Winston-Salem's SciWorks, one of America's leading science museums, will also host several Festival events. Nationwide, organizers expect as many as 1 million people to participate in the Festivals' activities, a remarkable achievement.

These events are opening the doors of science labs and bringing science into the hands of America's youth. As a mother, grandmother, and former educator, I am well aware that inspiring greatness and encouraging education in science among our Nation's children is an important effort. I applaud the USA Science and Engineering Festival and the North Carolina Science Festival for working to achieve these goals and ensure America continues to be the world leader in innovation and scientific discovery.

Madam Speaker, I had the privilege this past weekend to speak with a group of committed and inspiring pro-life activists in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. This group is spearheading the local 40 Days for Life campaign in Winston-Salem, which brings pro-life citizens together in a 40-day prayer vigil and community outreach effort to stand up for the lives of the unborn. This week marks the beginning of the fall 40-day vigil in Winston-Salem, the fifth such campaign the group has led in the area, and one of hundreds happening in cities across the Nation.

In the short time that this 40 Days for Life group has been standing up for the rights of unborn children, at least 14 babies' lives have been saved. In my ledger, that makes this pro-life effort an incredible success. By involving

more than 25 local churches and scores of pro-life participants, 40 Days for Life is making a broad impact for the pro-life cause in the community.

But this is only part of the story. Nationwide, the 40 Days for Life movement is growing stronger with each passing year. To date, 11,500 churches and 350,000 individuals have gotten involved in the hundreds of local campaigns, and the lives of 2,811 babies have been spared from abortion thanks to the courageous and selfless efforts of these pro-life groups.

Madam Speaker, this is a committed group of people who are dedicated to the rights of the unborn. I am proud to support those in North Carolina who participate in this important event and who would spend 40 days in fasting and prayer on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.

HEALTH CARE LAW 6-MONTH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor tonight to talk about health care on this, the 6-month anniversary of the signing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in the East Wing of the White House, March 23 of this year. It's interesting because since the passage and signing of that bill into law, support has actually decreased rather than increased.

This bill came to the House in the most unusual fashion. And in fact, our Speaker, Speaker PELOSI, was quoted as saying, "We have to pass this bill so that you can find out what's in it." Well, that sounds pretty odd, doesn't it? It turns out the last 6 months have been just that, pretty odd.

On August 31 of this year, Secretary Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services, said, quoting, "Unfortunately, there is still a great deal of confusion about what the reform law is and what it isn't. We have a lot of re-education to do."

I don't know if that means they will be setting up reeducation camps for some of us, but nevertheless you have to wonder about the implications of that statement.

Now, it's interesting, I sit on a small little subcommittee on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The committee is called Oversight and Investigations. Part of our jurisdiction is the Department of Health and Human Services, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. You would think that our little subcommittee would perhaps have had some curiosity to have a hearing or two to talk about the implementation of this bill, to ask about how things are going, what's the future look like. It's been 6 months, maybe we could sit down and have a little talk. But we haven't done so.