the emergency response efforts, while simultaneously working to hold BP accountable through the Gulf Coast Claims Facility. Here in Washington, JO and I worked closely with other members from the Gulf states to draft and pass the RESTORE Act, which will bring billions of dollars of fine money from the oil spill back to the impacted communities for economic and ecological restoration. JO's constant leadership and work on behalf of his constituents have left an indelible mark on his district, and his tireless work has helped assure a more prosperous future for citizens along the Gulf.

We will all be sad to see JO leave the House, and I will particularly miss his commonsense approach to legislating, but we also know that his service to the people of the State of Alabama is far from over. JO's new position as vice chancellor of government relations and economic development for the University of Alabama System will allow him to continue his distinguished service to the people of Alabama. Although as a University of Florida graduate, I think I can speak for the entire SEC, when I say that the last thing that the University of Alabama needs is more world–class talent. JO's track record of success here in the House will no doubt be an invaluable asset to the University of Alabama system and its students.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the whole House I extend my deep gratitude to JO for his years of distinguished service on behalf of his constituents and the entire Gulf Coast that we call home. My wife Vicki and I wish JO, his wife Jane, their daughter Lee, and their son Robins all the best as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, during roll No. 445, on the passage of H.R. 367, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2013, I was called away from the floor for official business and was unable to vote on the final passage. I intended to vote ''aye.''

RECOGNIZING JIM CARMICHAEL'S COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE KITSAP COUNTY REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Carmichael, a recent recipient of the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance's Lifetime Achievement Award. For 30 years, Mr. Carmichael has worked to advance the economic interests of Kitsap County through steadfast service to his community. As a result of his dedication, Mr. Carmichael has had a profound influence on the economic development of Kitsap County and the surrounding region.

Mr. Carmichael began his work in the county in 1977, when he was hired as the chief lender for Kitsap Bank. By 1985, he was its President and Chief Operating Officer. Kitsap Bank has thrived under his stewardship, expanding throughout the region and creating good, living-wage jobs. Due to the foresight and judgment of Jim Carmichael, Kitsap Bank successfully navigated the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Mr. Speaker, as an active member of the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance, and as its former board president, Mr. Carmichael worked to foster local entrepreneurship, attract business to the region, and educate the community about the benefits of development. As a board member of the YMCA, he worked to promote the well-being of some of our most vulnerable citizens. As the head of Kitsap Bank, Mr. Carmichael ensured the availability of lending opportunities, making our communities stronger, healthier, and more self-reliant.

Mr. Carmichael has always been someone that leaders throughout our community and state—including yours truly—could contact to better understand financial issues, economic development opportunities, or other civic matters.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of these great accomplishments that he has received this special award. Today, I can say with confidence that the careful judgment of Mr. Carmichael, and his extraordinary commitment to the promotion of the public good, has made our state a better place to live and do business. I am pleased to recognize his service today.

THE 40TH VOTE TO REPEAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, there is something extraordinary taking place. Not only are we implementing the Affordable Care Act across 50 states benefitting hundreds of millions of people in our country, but there is simultaneously an effort in the House of Representatives to repeal the law for the 40th time.

Imagine. . .this is not the fourth time, but the 40th time that Republicans are moving to take away rights to which Americans are legally entitled. These are the rights signed into law by the President and confirmed by the United States Supreme Court.

There's never been such an effort in Congress in the history of our country where a measure has been taken up 40 times. I believe my friends on the other side of the aisle are on the wrong side of history.

I would like to highlight this phenomenon through the lens of constituents and the rights they have and the rights that my Republican colleagues want to take away from them.

They want to reopen the prescription drug donut hole that was created through the program that they supported, costing seniors thousands of out-of-pocket expenses a year.

They want to take away from children the ability to stay on their parents' insurance policy up to the age of 26.

They want to take away lifetime limit caps on insurance policies. How can anyone argue that lifetime limit caps were ever good policy?

They want to take away preventive services from Americans like mammograms and colonoscopies.

They want to take away health care premiums that are actually spent on medical care instead of advertising.

They want to take away the right to plain language explanations of plan benefits.

And most of all, they want to take away the rights of my constituents to health insurance for those with preexisting conditions.

Thomas Jefferson said in 1808 that ''great innovations should not be forced on slender majorities.'' I think an overwhelming number of American people would say they are in favor of the rights they have under the Affordable Care Act, versus going back to a time of discriminatory practices of private insurers.

THE IMPACT OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL WATER PROGRAMS ON HEALTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, the subcommittee that I chair held a hearing on U.S. Africa programs and found that the unitary water budget line item had been ''zeroed out.'' Needless to say, members of our subcommittee were astonished that such an important segment of our foreign policy was seemingly being abandoned. We were assured that the money for international water programs did not disappear, but was merely redistributed among several programs. The hearing that we held yesterday was intended to look at how effective this strategy has been and to look at how our government's international water programs will be implemented in the future.

Water is undeniably important to health and the very survival of human beings. Water comprises more than two thirds of human body weight, and without water, we would die in a few days. The human brain is 95% water, blood is 82% and lungs 90%. A mere 2% drop in our body's water supply can trigger signs of dehydration: fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on smaller print, such as a computer screen. Water is important to the mechanics of the human body. The body cannot work without it, just as a car cannot run without gas and oil.

It is, therefore, troubling that so many people in the world do not have ready access to water. According to a 2012 report released by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund, roughly 780 million people around the world lack access to clean drinking water, and an estimated 2.5 billion people (roughly 40% of the world's population) are without access to safe sanitation facilities. Tainted water and unsanitary practices are at the root of many health problems in the developing world and are hindering U.S. and international global health efforts.

In a June 27th hearing on neglected diseases, the subcommittee heard testimony on the WHO list of 17 neglected tropical diseases—three of which are primarily waterborne. However, there are dozens of other diseases transmitted through contaminated water, including botulism, cholera, dysentery, hepatitis A, polio and SARS.