

were doing. And now with this vote today, where the Republican plan is basically to remove all of those protections that we have offered the American public, there are a lot of people out there who will think that after the vote today that these protections are going to go away.

So I want to assure the constituents in my district, the Third District of Kentucky—almost 300,000 of them with preexisting conditions—your protection against discrimination will not go away. Those 15,700 small businesses in my district that will now get benefits to provide coverage for their employees, don't worry about that vote. Those protections are not going to go away.

For those seniors in the doughnut hole, almost 10,000 in my district who have had their prescription drug costs lowered because of what we did last year, this vote today will not take them away.

And as for those 24,000 individuals in my district who will now have access to insurance for the first time, the vote today will not take them away.

□ 1030

OPPOSING REPEAL OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to repealing health care reform. The reason is simple: It does not create jobs, it does not protect the middle class, and it balloons the deficit.

Since March of 2010, the economy has created a total of 1.1 million new private-sector jobs. Over 200,000 of these jobs were in the health care sector alone. Health care reform is helping to create jobs, not take them away. Health care reform helps the middle class. In my district alone, 439,000 individuals who currently have health insurance now have protections and benefits that they did not have before the reform. 113,000 of my senior constituents are able to access preventive care and screenings for free because of reform. Tax credits are available for up to 14,500 small businesses in the capital region of New York.

These are real changes that benefit real people. Repeal would eliminate all of them, thoughtlessly and with great harm to the middle class of my district. Finally, repeal would increase the debt by trillions of dollars. In fact, 20 years from now, repeal would cost us more than \$1.2 trillion, ballooning the deficit and severely threatening our Nation's debt.

BUSTING MYTHS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, thank you so very much. I look forward to working with you.

It's time to bust a number of myths. It's time to really tell the Americans the truth. As we begin another series of 5-hour debates on repealing a life-saving initiative, it's really time to tell the truth. Maybe it's time to tell the truth about this senior citizen, who had pneumonia and didn't know she had it. But if she had not had "a government-run health system," Medicare, she wouldn't be laying up in a sophisticated medical facility, providing her with the opportunity to live. Any of you know about pneumonia—walking pneumonia can kill you. It killed my grandfather, who did not have access to this quality health care because he did not have Medicare.

It's time to bust the myths. It's time to tell our physicians that Democrats worked hard to build up your reimbursement. We were the leaders on it. This has nothing to do with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, because as this bill grows with research dollars, we also have the opportunity, with the President, to work on reimbursement. This bill is a bill to save lives. And those in Texas know it, Mr. Speaker, because the Texas insurance agency said it is a good bill.

FREEDOMS AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to again debate the repeal of the health care legislation passed last year. Democrats provided in that bill various freedoms: Freedom from discrimination for preexisting conditions, freedom from cancellation because you get sick, freedom to move from job to job without losing your insurance. Those freedoms are part of the legislation of America today. They are all based on the equal protection laws of the 14th Amendment.

The Republicans, in a very radical and extreme move, want to have Americans forfeit these freedoms. We can't have that done. This is about saving money, \$230 billion. Republicans talk about saving money. But they are prepared to repeal an act that saves America \$230 billion.

We want to make sure that we have manufacturing in this country, we make it in America. We're not competitive with the rest of the world. We can't allow this repeal to take place. I urge a "no" vote.

OPPOSING REPEAL OF THE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT

(Mr. CARNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose this counterproductive effort to repeal the Affordable Care

Act. Instead, we ought to focus on how we can move forward together, Democrats and Republicans, to address the very serious challenge of rising health care costs. Among developed nations, the United States spends twice as much as a share of GDP on health care; yet we rank near the bottom in health outcomes.

Insurance premiums more than doubled in the last decade. Absent reform, they are on pace to double again by 2020. These costs are unsustainable for Delaware families and for the Federal budget. There can't be serious conversation about deficit reduction without talking about health care cost containment. Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP alone consume one-quarter of the Federal budget. The Affordable Care Act will curb health care cost growth, but there is a lot more that needs to be done.

I came to Congress to make the tough, thoughtful decisions necessary to improve the Affordable Care Act, not repeal it. And I look forward to working with my colleagues to do just that.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 39

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Holden, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Boswell, Mr. Baca, Mr. Cardoza, Mr. David Scott of Georgia, Mr. Cuellar, Mr. Costa, Mr. Walz of Minnesota, Mr. Schrader, Mr. Kissell, Mr. Owens, Ms. Pingree of Maine, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Welch, Ms. Fudge, Mr. Sablan, Ms. Sewell, and Mr. McGovern.

(2) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—Mr. Reyes, Ms. Loretta Sanchez of California, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Brady of Pennsylvania, Mr. Andrews, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Langevin, Mr. Larsen of Washington, Mr. Cooper, Ms. Bordallo, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Loeb sack, Ms. Giffords, Ms. Tsongas, Ms. Pingree of Maine, Mr. Kissell, Mr. Heinrich, Mr. Owens, Mr. Garamendi, Mr. Critz, Mr. Ryan of Ohio, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Ms. Castor of Florida, Ms. Sutton, and Ms. Hanabusa.

(3) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE.—Mr. Kildee, Mr. Payne, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Ms. Woolsey, Mr. Hinojosa, Mrs. McCarthy of New York, Mr. Tierney, Mr. Kucinich, Mr. Wu, Mr. Holt, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Bishop of New York, Mr. Loeb sack, and Ms. Hirono.

(4) COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES.—Ms. Waters, Mrs. Maloney, Mr. Gutierrez, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. Watt, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Meeks, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Hinojosa, Mr. Clay, Mrs. McCarthy of New York, Mr. Baca, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Miller of North Carolina, Mr. David Scott of Georgia, Mr. Al Green of Texas, Mr. Cleaver, Ms.

Moore, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Perlmutter, Mr. Donnelly of Indiana, Mr. Carson of Indiana, Mr. Himes, Mr. Peters, and Mr. Carney.

(5) COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Faleomavaega, Mr. Payne, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Engel, Mr. Meeks, Mr. Carnahan, Mr. Sires, Mr. Connolly of Virginia, Mr. Deutch, Mr. Cardoza, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Murphy of Connecticut, Ms. Wilson of Florida, Ms. Bass of California, Mr. Keating, and Mr. Cicilline.

(6) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—Ms. Loretta Sanchez of California, Ms. Harman, Ms. Jackson Lee of Texas, Mr. Cuellar, Ms. Clarke of New York, Ms. Richardson, Mrs. Christensen, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Higgins, Ms. Speier, Mr. Richmond of Louisiana, Mr. Clarke of Michigan, and Mr. Keating.

(7) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—Mr. Berman, Mr. Nadler, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Mr. Watt, Ms. Zoe Lofgren of California, Ms. Jackson Lee of Texas, Ms. Waters, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Pierluisi, Mr. Quigley, Ms. Chu, Mr. Deutch, Ms. Linda T. Sánchez of California, and Ms. Wasserman Schultz.

(8) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—Mr. Kildee, Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Faleomavaega, Mr. Pallone, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Holt, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. Bordallo, Mr. Costa, Mr. Boren, Mr. Sablan, Mr. Heinrich, Mr. Luján, Mrs. Christensen, Mr. Sarbanes, Ms. Sutton, Ms. Tsongas, Mr. Pierluisi, Mr. Garamendi, and Ms. Hanabusa.

(9) COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM.—Mr. Towns, Mrs. Maloney, Ms. Norton, Mr. Kucinich, Mr. Tierney, Mr. Clay, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Connolly of Virginia, Mr. Quigley, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Braley of Iowa, Mr. Welch, Mr. Yarmuth, Mr. Murphy of Connecticut, and Ms. Speier.

(10) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Costello, Ms. Woolsey, Ms. Zoe Lofgren of California, Mr. Wu, Mr. Miller of North Carolina, Mr. Lipinski, Ms. Giffords, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Fudge, Mr. Luján, Mr. Tonko, Mr. McNERNEY, Mr. Sarbanes, Ms. Sewell, Ms. Wilson of Florida, and Mr. Clarke of Michigan.

(11) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Mr. Shuler, Mr. Schrader, Mr. Critz, Mr. Altmire, Ms. Clarke of New York, Ms. Chu, Mr. Cicilline, and Mr. Richmond.

(12) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Costello, Ms. Norton, Mr. Nadler, Ms. Brown of Florida, Mr. Filner, Ms. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Boswell, Mr. Holden, Mr. Larsen of Washington, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Bishop of New York, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Carnahan, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Lipinski, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Altmire, Mr. Walz of Minnesota, Mr. Shuler, Mr. Cohen, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Sires, and Ms. Edwards.

(13) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Ms. Brown of Florida, Mr. Reyes, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Braley of Iowa, and Mr. McNERNEY.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPEALING THE JOB-KILLING HEALTH CARE LAW ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, proceedings will now resume on the bill (H.R. 2) to repeal the job-killing health care law and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When consideration was postponed on Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 5 hours of debate remained on the bill, with 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and minority leader or their designees, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 90 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, for 20 consecutive months more than 14 million Americans have been unemployed. As much as we would like to solve this problem, the Federal Government cannot legislate or regulate our way to job creation. We can, however, foster economic certainty that will encourage families, businesses, and entrepreneurs to spend, hire, and invest. And that is what we will try to do today.

Almost 1 year ago, Democrats launched a nearly \$1 trillion government takeover of health care that increases national health care spending by \$311 billion over 10 years and levies more than \$500 billion in new taxes on individuals, consumers, and businesses. The 2,700-page law has led to more than 4,000 pages of new rules and regulations, and the law is only 10 months old. The uncertainty of what this all means for individuals and businesses today, and in the months and years to come, is having a chilling effect on the country's job creators.

A number of provisions of the law will undermine job creation and economic growth, but perhaps none is as alarming as the employer mandate. For the first time in the Nation's history, employers with more than 50 workers are required to provide government-approved health care coverage. Those who do not or cannot afford to will be forced to pay a \$2,000 penalty for every worker beyond the first 30. If you are a small business owner with 50 workers and you cannot afford to provide government-approved health insurance for your workers, adding one additional employee to the payroll will result in a \$42,000 penalty.

□ 1040

Some refer to the employer mandate as shared sacrifice. They argue that ex-

panding coverage to every individual means everyone must pay, but the cost of this provision will result in more than lost dollars and cents. Hiring new workers will be more expensive, creating a disincentive for job creators to put Americans back to work.

The employer mandate isn't the only challenge facing employers. Last year the administration released a regulation on the so-called grandfather provision, a provision intended to protect current plans against the law's costly and complex requirements. It is also central to the President's promise that, if you like your current health care plan, you can keep it.

Unfortunately, the regulation falls far short of the President's promise. By the administration's own estimates, up to 69 percent of all employer plans and 80 percent of small business plans will be denied grandfathered status in just 2 years. One estimate indicates 87 million Americans will face changes to their current health care plans.

Instead of keeping what they already have, individuals and employers will have to pay more for something new and unfamiliar. The more costly it is for employers to provide coverage, the more likely existing health plans will be eliminated and the need for government assistance will grow. And as the rolls for government programs expand, the cost to taxpayers will skyrocket.

At a time when every job creator should be encouraged to grow and hire, the Democrats' health care law instead forces employers to choose between rising health care costs and government penalties. It is time to end the uncertainty facing families, employers, and workers. It is time to push ObamaCare aside so America's job creators, both large and small, can move forward with the confidence they need to hire new workers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield myself 4 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2, the Republican Patients' Rights Repeal Act.

The question is just simply fundamental here, whether or not people will be able to have control over their health care needs and their health insurance needs, or whether or not we will go back to the chaos of the previous system that is dictated by the insurance companies where people are thrown off of policies willy nilly, where people are not reimbursed for costs willy nilly, given excuses, paperwork back and forth, where young people are thrown off their parents' policy when they graduate from high school, and whether or not they will have insurance or not, or whether people will have the freedom to make the choices, to have insurance that will cover them, that will get rid of the preexisting conditions that eliminate their coverage, that will get rid of the lifetime caps so that those people who contract cancer