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□ 1630

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008—Continued

That is certainly going to be true for the children's health insurance bill, which really is a huge step in the direction of Washington-controlled bureaucratic health care.

So it is appropriate that we appreciate the nexus between this bill, the Agriculture appropriations bill, and that. One is the process was so flawed on the health care bill that we like to commend our colleagues on the other side of the aisle for bringing an appropriate process for appropriations bills. The other is that this is an attempt at fiscal responsibility, or at least a small step.

I think it is important to appreciate what the original intent of the health insurance bill that was passed 10 years ago was, because we will not likely get that opportunity when that time arises later this week.

The original attempt was to cover children who do not have health insurance between the level of income in their family from Medicaid to a low-income state, considered to be, in 1997, 200 percent of the poverty level. That is a noble purpose. It is a noble purpose to provide assistance for families who are unable to provide health insurance for their children.

That legislation expires at the end of September. So we have a lot of time in order to be able to have an appropriate discussion and talk about what the changes ought to be as we move towards reauthorization. All of us believe that those children at the lower end of the economic scale ought to be able to have access to the finest health insurance.

But the process, as my good friend from Tennessee mentioned, has been so

remarkably flawed that that likely isn't going to be the case. In fact, we were given a bill late last week that was almost a ream of paper, 450-odd pages, that frankly doesn't include all that the majority plans to put into it because they haven't figured out how they are going to pay for it.

But what they do know, they are going to cut Medicare to over \$100 billion. Over \$100 billion they are going to cut Medicare, which is why this bill is so important, because we have to figure out how we are going to pay for that. I know on this side of the aisle we are interested in being responsible in our spending and making certain we are able to cover programs.

On the other side of the aisle, Mr. Chairman, it appears their desire is to raise taxes in order to pay for programs. In this instance, though, they are going to do what they alleged 10 years ago they ought not do, and that is to cut Medicare, cut Medicare to a huge degree so that literally millions of seniors across this Nation will see their Medicare program cut.

In addition to that, there is a reported proposal on the other side that will increase taxes on every single American who has a health insurance policy. There will be a fee. They won't call it a tax; they will call it a fee to increase revenue to the Federal Government on every single American that has a health insurance policy.

Mr. Chairman, I don't know about you, but in my district, that is what we call a tax. In my district we don't believe that new programs ought to be put in place and charged with new taxes. We believe that the Federal Government ought to spend wisely.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

MOTION TO RISE OFFERED BY MR. PRICE OF GEORGIA

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the motion to rise.

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the Chair will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the time within which a vote by electronic device, if ordered, will be taken on the pending question following the quorum call.

Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The call was taken by electronic device.

[Roll No. 775]

Abercrombie	Boswell	Conyers
Ackerman	Boucher	Cooper
Aderholt	Boustany	Costello
Akin	Boyd (FL)	Courtney
Alexander	Boyda (KS)	Cramer
Allen	Brady (PA)	Crenshaw
Altmire	Brady (TX)	Crowley
Andrews	Braley (IA)	Cubin
Arcuri	Broun (GA)	Cuellar
Baca	Brown (SC)	Cummings
Bachmann	Brown, Corrine	Davis (AL)
Bachus	Buchanan	Davis (CA)
Baird	Burgess	Davis (KY)
Baker	Burton (IN)	Davis, David
Baldwin	Butterfield	Davis, Lincoln
Barrett (SC)	Buyer	Davis, Tom
Barrow	Calvert	Deal (GA)
Bartlett (MD)	Cantor	DeFazio
Barton (TX)	Capito	DeGette
Bean	Capps	DeLauro
Becerra	Capuano	Dent
Berkley	Cardoza	Diaz-Balart, L.
Berman	Carnahan	Diaz-Balart, M.
Berry	Carney	Dicks
Biggert	Carson	Dingell
Bilbray	Carter	Doggett
Bilirakis	Castle	Donnelly
Bishop (GA)	Castor	Doyle
Bishop (NY)	Chabot	Drake
Bishop (UT)	Chandler	Dreier
Blackburn	Clay	Duncan
Blumenauer	Cleaver	Edwards
Boehner	Clyburn	Ehlers
Bonner	Coble	Ellison
Bordallo	Cohen	Ellsworth
Boren	Cole (OK)	Emanuel

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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