

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that our Republican colleagues are refusing to work with us in crafting health care reform legislation.

Yes, you are.

Instead of working with us, you have cranked up your message machine. You have labeled our legislation with every label except ones that are accurate. Most disappointing, Republicans are frightening our seniors with false statements that they will experience a reduction in Medicare benefits. Wrong.

The truth is this legislation would not only maintain important Medicare benefits, but it will enhance them. We cannot afford to continue to do nothing about health care reform. There are 45 million who are uninsured. There are 14,000 Americans who are losing their benefits every day. Employer-sponsored group plans are getting more expensive. They have high deductibles and high copays, and they simply don't provide the security that families need. The cost of family health insurance will continue to rise five times faster than wages.

We must have reform and we must have it now. I urge my Republican colleagues to reconsider their strategy to block this legislation.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

THE TRUE COST OF GOVERNMENT- RUN HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Republicans do support reasonable health care reform that will lower the cost of health care and health insurance for every American family and for every American business, but the Democrat plan for health care reform amounts to a government takeover of health care in this country, paid for with nearly \$1 trillion in higher taxes.

The American people know what government-run health care will mean: higher cost, bigger deficits, less coverage, less quality, less choice, and more bureaucracy.

House Republicans have led the fight against this government takeover of health care, and now House Republicans and a handful of Democrats are on the verge of a historic victory for the American people and for our American health care economy, but we need your help.

If you oppose government-run health care, call your Congressman today. If you oppose higher costs, bigger deficits, less coverage, and more bureaucracy, call your Congressman today. If you want real bipartisan health care reform that lowers the cost and that

addresses the real needs of our health care economy with American solutions, call your Congressman today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to dispel misinformation that has been propagated about the health care system. I've heard many of my colleagues across the aisle claim that the Democrats' health care proposal will result in rationing. Let's address it.

How many millions of people have put off getting checkups, have avoided doing necessary followups, have delayed needed care or have failed to get the prescriptions their doctors have ordered for them?

Why? Because we ration care every day in this country now. If you want to talk about rationing, listen to these numbers:

Forty-five percent of Americans went without needed care because of costs in this country in 2007. That's rationing. Fifty-three percent of Americans cut back on their health care in the last year because of costs. That's rationing. Between 2000 and 2008, 5 million families filed for bankruptcy because of medical bills. That's rationing. About one-third of the uninsured have a chronic disease. They are six times less likely to receive care for a health problem than are the insured. That's rationing.

As many as 22,000 Americans die each year because they don't have health insurance. My brothers and sisters, that's rationing.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR TRUE HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, we were told time was of the essence when we were considering the economic stimulus package. We were told we didn't have time to waste in passing the President's budget. Yet, despite the hundreds of billions of dollars in additional spending and despite the trillions of dollars in additional debt, we must ask: Where are the jobs?

Now we're told we must rush to pass health care reform, which will cost you more jobs, which will increase taxes and which will put a Federal bureaucrat between you and your doctor.

House Republicans believe in true health care reform that will reduce

skyrocketing health care costs while protecting that very special doctor-patient relationship. True reform must make health care more affordable by reducing costs by rooting out waste, fraud and abuse and by reining in frivolous lawsuits that cost families millions of dollars each year in higher premiums—true health care reform that challenges Americans to be healthy and to invest in health information technology.

Let's take the time, and let's work together to get the right prescription for health care reform.

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT IS STABILIZING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, the Dow is back over 9,000, and new housing starts have seen their largest monthly increase in 9 years. While, overall, the Nation's financial indicators remain mixed, there is a growing body of evidence that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has helped stabilize our economy. Because of the stimulus, more than 95 percent of American families have seen their taxes cut, and 51 million seniors and veterans have received their \$250 relief payments in the mail. More than 38,000 stimulus-funded projects are already under way, many of which have come in under budget.

The American people can visit recovery.org to see how every penny has been spent. Only 4 months into the 2-year recovery package, already we are seeing results. While the road to recovery is long, we have clearly taken the first steps, and we are finally headed in the right direction.

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HEALTH CARE AND NEW JOBS

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker of the House got up and said, jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs. That was when we were dealing with what they call the National Energy Tax. We called it cap-and-tax. But what was the reality? That particular bill passed by the Congress will result in job losses of 2.3 million to 2.7 million. It's predicted by 2035, 1.38 million manufacturing jobs will go overseas.

The number of job growths created by the Democrats thus far? Zero. None. What jobs was she talking about? Her job? We don't know. But we haven't seen the jobs. Where are the jobs?

And now we're looking at a health care plan which experts tell us between 4 million and 6 million more jobs will be lost and there will be no reduction in the cost to the American people. Let's get a health care plan that works and let's ask again, and again, and