the American people? The screed is: "Transparency is okay—except for those things they don’t want to be transparent."

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke argues that H.R. 1207, the legislation the Federal Reserve, would politicize monetary policy. He claims that monetary policy must remain "independent," that is, secret. He ignores history, because chairmen of the Federal Reserve in the past, especially when up for reappointment, do that to prevent the Federal Reserve from being a threat to political leaders. The Fed sets interest rates. How could it? The Fed sets interest rates. It's a fact.

Bernanke states that "a considerable amount of evidence indicates that central bank transparency increases the effectiveness of monetary policy and enhances economic and financial performance." They also argue that an audit would "destroy the financial market's faith in the Fed. They say this in the midst of the greatest financial crisis in history.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that sharing real stories from people in our communities is the best opportunity to put a human face on the task before us with respect to reforming health care.

We have spoken about costs, tax increases and job losses. We've spoken about access to care and about government-run options. These are all deeply important factors in this equation, and we have a duty to the American people to debate them fully, but there is also a human element that cuts through the debate and the rhetoric, and that perfectly crystallizes what is at stake here.

My Republican colleagues and I have tried to impress on the other side the importance of maintaining the doctor-patient decision-making process. I think that Joshua Loya's story says it all.

Brittany Kraft is a constituent of mine from Pearland, Texas. She was 24 weeks pregnant in March of 2002 when her unborn son was diagnosed with hypoplastic left heart syndrome. She was told that he would not be born alive. Her cardiologist consulted with groups of surgeons around the country, but none could offer the help that she needed.

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