

how much consensus there was about health care reform. People liked health care reform.

What they didn't like were things that are not actually in the bill. Because of the massive disinformation campaign on this bill, people didn't like things that weren't there.

There were more hallucinations about this from opponents of this bill than there were when Timothy Leary was doing business in Haight-Ashbury in the late 1960s. Take this hallucination that this bill is going to insure illegal immigrants. You look at page 132, it says, "For purposes of this division, the term 'affordable credit individual' means, subject to subsection (b), an individual who is lawfully present in a State in the United States."

Look at page 143, "Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States."

Now, the President was challenged during his joint address to the U.S. Congress. I will tell you what, if there was a deception, it wasn't by the President of the United States.

And it is time for us to call out those people who spread hallucinations, phantoms, boogeymen. People want health care and this reform. We are going to pass it.

SKYROCKETING NATIONAL DEFICIT

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the President has claimed that his policies are going to reduce the skyrocketing national deficit, but I would like to spend just a moment to debunk this myth.

Rather than reducing the deficit, the President's budget calls for a \$9 trillion deficit over the next 10 years, 6 trillion higher than the CBO predicted just in January when he took office. Even according to the White House, the national debt will more than double in 10 years. The President's own numbers showed that the national debt will be 107 percent of GDP by 2019.

In the month of August, there were 14.92 million unemployed individuals looking for work, the highest number in history. Since February, when the Democrats passed their stimulus, 2.46 million people have lost their jobs.

And while the President promised that billions of dollars would go into shovel-ready construction projects that would help rebuild infrastructure and employ hundreds of thousands, transportation spending from the stimulus has only trickled out at a snail's pace.

Given this administration's track record, why wouldn't the American people be skeptical about \$1.6 trillion for health care reform?

REFORMING HEALTH INSURANCE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, reforming health insurance must be our focus for now. The vast majority of Americans already have health insurance.

The question is, what does our health care reform bill mean to them? Just three things. It means an insurance company can no longer decide to deny any coverage or jack up your rates because of preexisting conditions. It means it will be against the law for insurance companies to drop your coverage when you get sick or water it down when you need it most. It also means insurance companies will no longer be able to place some arbitrary cap on the amount of coverage that you receive each year.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the insurance companies to come to the table, spend the millions on corrective measures instead of spending millions to pass out these mistruths and falsehoods, and try to work this problem out. The American people deserve everyone working together to get decent health care reform for the people of this Nation, and they don't deserve all the misinformation that's going around out there.

□ 1230

HONORING THE LIFE OF PATROLMAN JERRY ALAN JONES

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jerry Alan Jones, a police officer in my hometown of Charleston, West Virginia, who died tragically in the line of duty while chasing a suspect early Sunday morning. At just 27, Patrolman Jones truly exemplified what it meant to serve both his local community and as a citizen of our Nation. Before becoming a patrolman with the Charleston Police Department, he was a sergeant with the United States Marine Corps and helped to secure the Kandahar Airport when the U.S. military first went to Afghanistan after September 11. Back at home, he was active in his local church, where he met his wife, Samantha. The couple recently celebrated their first anniversary together. Today the city of Charleston mourns the loss of one of its finest. Patrolman Jones led a life to which we should all aspire. We mourn with his wife, Samantha, with his family, and we offer our prayers of comfort and remembrance.

I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognition of Patrolman Jerry Alan Jones, our friend, protector and hero, for his fearless courage in serving the citizens of Charleston and the entire State of West Virginia.

REMEMBERING MAESTRO ERICH KUNZEL

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

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, on September 1, we lost an artist who helped shape a generation of music in this country. For more than 40 years, Erich Kunzel shared his remarkable talent and passion with music lovers across greater Cincinnati and around the world. His tireless leadership and enthusiasm helped build the Cincinnati Pops into a musical organization without peer. Their many recordings over the years brought classical and contemporary masterpieces into the homes of countless Americans. Whether directing from his podium at Riverbend Music Center or leading the National Symphony Orchestra, as he did here in Washington every year on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, Maestro Kunzel was a source of pride for Cincinnati and a mainstay of our Nation's musical community. He will be dearly missed by all of us whose lives were enriched by his boundless creativity.

AMERICA'S HEALTH CARE BILL

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, all of us had the opportunity to spend 5 weeks at home, listening to our constituents. And in Vermont, when I arrived home, such as with many of you, people were very fearful about a health care bill, a health care bill that was going to establish death panels, a health care bill where the government was going to select your doctor, a health care bill that would have as its primary beneficiaries illegal immigrants.

Of course, that is not a health care bill that anyone in this body is considering. But as we proceeded and pushed back on the misinformation, it became increasingly clear that the health care bill President Obama has outlined, which has been passed by three committees in this House to regulate insurance companies so that they offer real insurance, to extend coverage to 37 million Americans—something good for them but also for those of us with insurance, to reduce our cost shift premium of \$1,100, and a public option to provide competition and choice—that is a health care bill that Americans support, and we must pass.

WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE ENERGY REVOLUTION

(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 to continue to remind my colleagues about the energy crisis we are