

Services, CMS, directed Medicare Advantage plans to discontinue any communication with their enrollees about this thing that is taking place cutting their benefits.

□ 2000

This is absolutely terrible. There's no doubt that Medicare Advantage is going to be cut. The Republicans in the House have pointed out time and again that the Democrats' plan in this body will cut Medicare Advantage and other benefits of Medicare by over \$500 billion. In the Senate it runs anywhere from \$200 billion on up. We don't know how much because we've never even seen their final bill. It hadn't come out of committee, so we really don't know. But I can tell seniors this: They are going to lose benefits. They're going to lose Medicare Advantage. And so why is AARP saying that there's no change going to take place if we pass these plans?

It's because they have a benefit that they're going to get if Medicare Advantage is cut. And what is that benefit? They sell what's called Medigap, and Medigap coverage is more expensive than the Medicare plans we're talking about. And so they would get a tremendous kickback. Let me just tell you what it says here. There was an article written in Bloomberg, and the article said very clearly that the AARP is getting \$652 million a year in royalties and fees. That's an increase of 31 percent over last year when they got about \$500 billion.

And according to Bloomberg, the analysis published in December 2008, those royalties comprise 60.3 percent of what AARP gets. And if we do away, this body and the other body, does away with Medicare Advantage and seniors want more coverage, they're going to have to go to Medigap. That's sold by AARP, and AARP will be the beneficiary, and that's why 60,000 seniors have left AARP, because they don't want this to happen.

Let me just read to you what a couple of seniors said after they found out about this. One said, AARP has great buying power, and people should be able to get the best deal. What they're doing is unconscionable, what AARP has allowed to happen. Another disillusioned senior wrote to the organization's leadership and asked whether AARP had a special relationship with insurance carriers by which it receives commissions and kickbacks. And it does. Seniors need to know that Medicare and Medigap is going to take the place of Medicare Advantage. There's going to be big cuts.

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

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. INGLIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE SAGA OF THE MCKAY FAMILY

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity of being here today. Hopefully I'll be here again tomorrow and the next day as well. And I do want to address an issue that is close to me as well as somewhat difficult. I admit that I have a romantic view of the world. Much of it is shaped by a lifetime having grown up watching television shows and movies. I like British mysteries and have enjoyed the fact that in Utah we have more of them available on PBS than they have back here in Washington. I think I've seen every episode of Law and Order and NCIS, and I grew up on Perry Mason which, once again, back home in Utah, there was a rerun every night on television at 10:30.

And I like those because in every sense of the word, each of these shows a good guy and a bad guy, and eventually the good guys were able to prevail against the bad guys. But I have to admit, much of that was the spin of Hollywood. So as I have looked in my life I try and see the world in maybe this dichotomy that's unfortunate, of good versus bad. To me the Drug Enforcement Agency, a part of the judicial system, Judiciary Department of the United States, were always the good guys. Their job was to try and take drug traffickers off the street, for indeed, those illegal drugs coming into our society harmed society. They harmed kids.

I had students I taught in school who I saw the byproduct of having them on illegal drugs. And I have seen the court system and been able to talk to those who work in the court system that recognize that even though the court case may be one of assault or one of burglary or vandalism, in each case there is often the core problem being illegal drugs.

Now, with that as a background, I want to introduce you to, today and tomorrow, a family in my hometown of Brigham City, the McKay family. I know this family primarily because of the four kids of the McKay family. I taught them all in school. Two boys and two girls, varying stages of academic ability, but in each case, I recognized within each of those kids there was a core quality. These were good, decent and honest kids. And I think my attitude towards the McKay family was shaped by the respect I have for the kids that came from that family.

Dr. McKay, in our community, has had a 30-year career as a respected board certified orthopedic surgeon. I guess the best compliment I can give is

that when my own kid broke his arm, we went to Dr. McKay to have it set and fixed. Dr. McKay is an Army veteran, serving 10 years in the military, retiring with the position of a lieutenant colonel. For 20 years he's been part of the Boxelder Search and Rescue Team. He was part of the Boxelder Medical Examiners team. The Boy Scouts of America have awarded him the Silver Beaver Award. When I was announcing football games at the local high school he was down on the field assisting with medical needs on a volunteer basis. He plays the organ in church.

I know that this family has supported me politically when I first ran. I hope it was because they saw something in me. My fear is that I was the first person from Brigham City city running for federal office, and therefore they were supportive. I also have worked with his wife in charities. This family has a criminal record that has nothing higher than parking tickets, and I have never thought of this family as a threat to my kids. But on June 5, 2008, there was a raid by the DEA on the home of the McKay family. Two weeks later, after this first 4-hour raid, there was another raid to find a copy of their will which, if they asked, they could have simply got. And in the fall of that same year another raid on his office with six armed agents asking for charts that they would have provided had they simply asked.

I was surprised when the first raid took place. But I decided I'll have to wait for a judgment because after all, the DEA are part of the good guys. Obviously, there has to be some kind of a reason. And in our system of justice, we are insured by the Constitution of a speedy trial and then a jury of the peers deciding guilt or innocence. At least that's what I used to teach my kids in civic classes. We are now in October 2009, 14 months later. I still do not know whether there is guilt or innocence in this situation because, in that entire period of time, there has not been a single charge filed against this family. However, the personal property of this family has been confiscated and not returned in that period of time.

At that June occurrence in 2008, there was a hard knock at the door. Dr. McKay said he was fearful at some particular time that had he not answered it quickly they may have kicked in the door. At that time he did open the door, and what happens in that, Mr. Speaker, is quite simply this: It is my intention of returning tomorrow and explaining what took place at that time and at that place, and to try and go on what has happened on this particular family, because it breaks my vision and my image of what the future should be. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time, and I hope to return tomorrow as I continue the saga of the McKay family.