

new politically correct phrase. I would like to suggest that we call it the "Public Indian Health Care Option for Everybody." The Indians have no option. They're forced to take the public plan.

Now let's look at the American government-run health care as it has worked out for them for 200 years. We have a lot of history taking care of the American Indians—or, shall I say, not taking care of them.

When Stephanie Little Light took her daughter, Ta'Shon Rain, to an Indian health service clinic in Montana, which she is required to do since she is under the universal health care Indian program, the doctor said that her little 5-year-old girl was just depressed. She had stopped eating and stopped walking. The little girl kept complaining to her mother that her stomach hurt all the time. After going back to the government-run health care clinic 10 more times, Ta'Shon's lung collapsed. She was then airlifted to a private, non-government hospital in Denver where they told her mom she had terminal cancer. The little girl who loved to dance and sing and dress up in Indian costumes always wanted to see Disney World, specifically Cinderella's Castle. So a charity sent the whole family there, but Ta'Shon didn't get to see that castle when they got to Florida. The little girl had died in a hotel room. This is a tragic example of universal medical health care run by the United States Government.

There is a big difference between good intentions and what really happens in the real world. When there are no doctors left and the taxpayer money is gone and when the bureaucrats control health care, people die. Is this what we are to expect under the new nationalized health care system?

They're trying to tell us that this new, improved disaster on Americans is going to be different. Yeah, right.

Mr. Speaker, they say on those Indian reservations, Don't get sick after June because that's when the Federal money runs out. So they ration health care. The Federal Indian Health Service agency calls itself—get this—a "rationed health care system" for Indians. How's that for truth about socialized medicine?

On another Indian reservation, Ardel Baker went to the reservation government-run clinic. She had chest pains. They sent her to a private hospital in an ambulance and put a note on her chest. The note read, "Understand that Priority 1 care cannot be paid for by us at this time because of funding issues." So they put a note on her and sent her on her way to a private hospital because the government would not take care of her. Ardel managed to survive that ordeal, thanks to private medicine.

Victor Brave Thunder was not so fortunate. He felt real bad and went to a government clinic on the reservation. They misdiagnosed the fact that he had heart failure and gave him Tylenol and

cough syrup and said, Get better. He later died.

Then there is Harriet Archambault. She tried five times to get an appointment on a reservation to get her hypertension medicine refilled, but government bureaucrats were nowhere to be found. So she died before she was able to get that sixth appointment at the government clinic for her medicine.

Mr. Speaker, these are examples of government-run medical malpractice against American Indians right here in America. Government-run health care never works. It never has. Even in America, we've proven it doesn't work.

The health care bill being pushed on the American people is not really about providing better quality at an affordable price. The government cannot do it better or cheaper. It's really about government control and intervention in the lives of the American people. It's about oppressive government.

So let's address specific issues of health care and solve them, like being able to buy insurance across State lines, allow businesses and associations to pool employees to get a better insurance rate, provide for a safety net for preexisting conditions and catastrophic injuries and illnesses. But we should never turn our health over to the United States Government. Just ask the American Indians.

And that's just the way it is.

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

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

THE 6-YEAR HIGHWAY AUTHORIZATION

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. I hope the gentleman who spoke before me in the well would be willing to accept one minor thing. I hear a lot from the Republicans about they want competition, they want the free market, but the problem is that insurance is exempt from antitrust law. Unlike any other industry or business, small or large, in America, except for professional baseball, they are exempt. They can and do get together and collude—collude to drive up the price of premiums, collude to stay out of one another's markets and not compete, collude not to exclude people with preexisting conditions, collude to do a whole host of anticompetitive things to stick it to the American people. So before I hear any more from that side of the aisle about supporting the private insurance industry, let's hear about having them play by the same rules as every other industry in

America. But that's not why I came to the floor this afternoon.

I came to the floor because there seems to be a little disconnect downtown at the White House with the President's economic team, yet, once again. Big surprise.

The GDP, gross domestic product, is growing, so the economy is recovering. We're out of the recession. Whoops. Well, it's a so-called jobless recovery, and we're still going to lose about 250,000 jobs a month. But they're down there celebrating.

We need to take concrete steps—not to make a bad pun—here in the House of Representatives, in Congress, to put people back to work. And one of the things that we could do best would be to ignore the President and his advisers who want to delay a new transportation policy for America, one that will deliver projects more quickly and with less expense, getting people out of congestion, giving people more transit options, fixing some of our 160,000 bridges that are either structurally deficient—there was a little problem yesterday with the San Francisco Bay Bridge—or functionally obsolete, building made-in-America streetcars, made-in-America modern buses, like the fuel cell bus I saw yesterday. But guess what? It's going to take some investment and some money.

This White House, after cutting a deal with Republican Senators for \$340 billion in tax cuts in the so-called stimulus, which isn't putting anybody back to work—ask your neighbor, ask your friend, ask anybody, What did you spend your \$12 on last week, your tax cut? How did you invest it for the future of America?

We need something that is not consumer-driven. We need a recovery that is investment and jobs-driven in this country, and a 6-year highway authorization could get that job done. The difference between the Obama plan—do nothing, extend current law and current levels of expenditure for a crumbling Third World-like infrastructure in this country—and what we're proposing here in the House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is 1 million jobs next year.

Now, apparently, the President's economic team thinks that they can tell those 1 million people who won't get jobs, Well, don't worry. The GDP's up, and we are losing less jobs than we were losing before. Or maybe they could get on board with us, help us write that 6-year bill, wake the Senate up from its nap, and put 1 million more Americans back to work next year rebuilding America's transportation infrastructure.

And, by the way, it meets another one of his goals. It will help him with his goals of reducing pollution, reducing carbon emissions because we'll get people out of sitting in traffic as we expand the system, deal with congestion and giving them more transit options.

I recommend that the President look for a new economic team and help us to