

transparency about what really is and is not covered. The reforms will cap out-of-pocket expenses and give Americans sliding-scale affordability credits to help them buy coverage.

Older women on Medicare will benefit from closing the doughnut hole and ensuring important preventive services like mammograms and cancer screenings are free of charge.

And finally, all women will benefit from an end to the discriminatory practices of gender rating and from making prevention and wellness a critical part of health care at last. For themselves, their spouses, their friends, daughters, and mothers, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation.

#### WHERE IS THE FLAG?

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, America is the most generous country on the face of the earth. Americans have given more in blood and treasure worldwide to help others than any nation in the history of the world.

But the Navy Times is reporting that the United States does not fly our flag at its main installation at Port-au-Prince in Haiti. The administration says flying the flag may give people in Haiti the wrong idea. Well, what is that supposed to mean? Is our government ashamed of Old Glory?

News reports say that every other nation involved in relief efforts is proudly flying their flag in Haiti. Americans in Haiti are a testament to the good intentions of our country. Why should the administration force the military to hide our flag as if it's ashamed of the red, white, and blue?

The flag represents everything that's good and right about America. American troops should be able to fly the Stars and Stripes wherever they are in this world serving our Nation. After all, isn't that what the flag is about?

But now it sounds like the administration is once again apologizing for Americans being American.

And that's just the way it is.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, as we head to our health care reform decision, I think a story of a fellow I met the other day, a very unique American, bears repeating. His name is Gary Hall. He was in my office yesterday.

Gary Hall won five gold medals, three silver medals, and two bronze medals in swimming, over three separate Olympics, really an incredible achievement. He got his medical insurance through the Olympic Committee for 12 years, but after that he wasn't eligible. And guess what happened? No one would write him insurance because he has diabetes.

The insurance companies said, we don't care if you've won gold medals, silver medals, and bronze medals, we won't give you insurance.

Now, that has got to change. We have to pass a health reform bill. Whether you've won a gold medal in swimming or you're just an average Joe or Jane, you ought to be able to buy insurance, even if you've got diabetes.

We are going to have a bill on the floor shortly that we are going to vote on. The vote's going to be transparent. It's going to be recorded. Everybody knows what it's going to be. It's going to be constitutional. It's going to be just the way we've voted for years. We're going to make sure people get health insurance in this country.

#### SIMPLE TRUTHS

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it's a simple truth that Republicans in Congress spent too much money. It's a simple truth, though, that in 12 years of Republican deficits, the Democrats in 1 year spent more money, with a deficit of \$1.4 trillion in 1 year.

It's a simple truth you can't insure 30 million more people without costing more to the Federal Government. It's a simple truth that if the government rewrites all the health care laws, you can't keep the health insurance that you now have.

It's a simple truth that with millions of new bureaucracies, or thousands of new bureaucracies and billions more dollars, bureaucrats will come in between you and your doctor.

And it's a simple truth the government that brought you "Cash For Clunkers" is not going to deliver good health care policy.

And it's a simple truth if the bill was so good we wouldn't need the Cornhusker kickback; we wouldn't need the Gatorade payoff; we wouldn't need the Louisiana purchase, and we would not have to promise to all Members of Congress all kinds of things that are in this bill and other bills to come if it was a good bill.

It's a simple truth the American people want us to start all over, and that's what we should be doing.

#### HEALTH REFORM AND WOMEN

(Ms. SUTTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, health care reform is critical to ensure that women have access to affordable health care. Currently, women can be charged higher rates simply because of their gender.

The Joint Economic Committee has estimated that 64 million women do not have adequate health insurance coverage today. 1.7 million women have lost their health insurance coverage

since the beginning of the economic downturn, and 39 percent of all low-income women lack health insurance coverage.

Women are also more likely to deplete their savings accounts paying medical bills than men. The health reform legislation being considered by Congress will help address all of these critical issues, and more. It will eliminate insurance coverage discrimination based on gender, provide access to affordable policies to all Americans, it will prevent bankruptcies due to medical costs by capping out-of-pocket payments, and it will prohibit insurance companies from discriminating based on preexisting conditions, including the despicable practice of calling domestic violence victims preexisting conditions.

It's time to pass this.

#### WHAT THE HECK, AMERICA

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. You know, I just love to listen to my colleagues on the Democrat side. I love them so much. And they just don't mention some of the other things that are going on, like the budget this year is \$3.8 trillion that we don't have. But the taxpayers are going to have to pay for it. They'll have to pay for it with inflation or higher taxes.

And they don't mention that there's going to be \$569.2 billion in new taxes. What the heck, we can afford that. And Medicare and Medicare Advantage is going to be cut by \$520 billion. But what the heck, the seniors, they don't have to worry about that. They can, you know, ask their grandkids for some of that money.

And of course the total cost is not \$980 billion. It's going to be about \$1.3 or \$1.4 trillion, and I really believe it's going to be more like \$2.5 to \$3 trillion. We don't have that money, and it's a new entitlement, but what the heck, America. You can handle that. This is just money, and we can always print more. Of course it causes inflation and higher taxes, but who cares. You can get it done.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH CARE REFORM TO WOMEN

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, it bears repeating, few Americans have more at stake in health care reform than women.

Forty States allow private health insurance companies to gender rate their premiums. As a result, a 25-year-old woman may pay between 6 percent and 45 percent more than a 25-year-old man to get the same coverage.

Fifty-two percent of women reported postponing or forgoing medical care because of cost. Only 39 percent of men reported having had those experiences.