

we can make progress in a difficult environment?

I would urge my colleagues to join the bipartisan and growing list of Members who have cosponsored the Personalize Your Care Act, H.R. 1173. Some day Congress is going to deal with the vast looming crisis we face. In the meantime, helping patients understand their choices and make their wishes known and respected is an important step to start.

SURVEY RESEARCH FROM THE REGENCE FOUNDATION AND THE NATIONAL JOURNAL

AMERICANS AGREE THAT DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PALLIATIVE CARE AND END-OF-LIFE CARE TREATMENT OPTIONS SHOULD BE FULLY COVERED

Now, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding these health and life issues.

Discussions about palliative care and end-of-life care treatment options should be fully covered by health insurance: 86% agree.

Discussions about palliative care and end-of-life care treatment options should be fully covered by Medicare: 81% agree.

AMERICANS OF ALL STRIPES SAY IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THESE ISSUES TO BE A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Now that you've heard some more information, how important is it that these health and life issues be a top priority for the health care system in this country?

96%: important.

72%: 'very' important.

AMERICANS WIDELY AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATING PATIENTS ABOUT THEIR OPTIONS AND THE VALUE OF A PUBLIC DEBATE

Now, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding these health and life issues.

It is important that patients and their families be educated about palliative care and end-of-life care options available to them along with curative treatment: 97% agree.

A public dialogue and debate about these health and life issues will help patients and their families by providing them with more information about their treatment options: 86% agree.

IMMIGRATION BILLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the wake of the passage of the Senate amnesty bill to shed light on two important elements of illegal immigration that the Senate has grossly overlooked. As we know, the Senate bill pairs border security with amnesty. This makes no sense. You would never replace your carpet at home if you still had a hole in the roof.

I am hopeful that the House will put border security first, but I still have concerns. That's why today I'm introducing two pieces of legislation. One will address the problem of visa overstays, and the other will ask for a full accounting of what went wrong with the 1986 amnesty deal that led to our current illegal immigration problem.

The first bill, the Visa Overstay Enforcement Act of 2013, will, for the first

time, make staying in the country after your visa has expired a felony criminal offense instead of just a civil offense. Upon a first offense, the visa overstay would bring a \$10,000 fine and 1 year in jail. The illegal immigrant may not be legally admitted to the United States for 5 years from the date of conviction and may not apply for a visa for 10 years after the date of conviction. A second offense would be subject to a fine of \$15,000 and up to 5 years in jail. The illegal immigrant would be banned from entering the United States for life.

Most of the talk about this issue has been focused on the southern border, but that won't solve our illegal immigration problem alone. If we fix our broken visa system, we can take care of nearly half of our illegal immigration concerns.

The second part of this bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to Congress detailing a biometric exit program involving the taking of fingerprints of those leaving the country at all land, sea, and air ports.

As I have often said, since 40 percent of illegal immigrants here today are here on an expired visa, it is obvious that if your State is home to an international airport, then you effectively live in a border State.

And we should learn from history. In 1986, we were told that if we just granted amnesty to 1.5 million illegal immigrants, the problem would go away. That didn't happen. Instead, 3 million people came here to take advantage of amnesty. We need to know what effect the 1986 amnesty program had on the American worker and whether the effects still linger today. Were wages depressed? Were jobs taken away from legal workers because so many received amnesty? We should learn our lesson.

My second piece of legislation is the 1986 Amnesty Transparency Act. It requires a comprehensive report on the failures of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, which are many.

Speaking of 1986, let's remember in that year, one of the bombers in the 1993 World Trade Center attack was granted amnesty. He had originally arrived on an agricultural visa. He was really a taxi driver, and all he ever planted was a bomb.

The real losers in this debate are the legal immigrants who have followed the rules. Here is a clear example:

Under the ObamaCare employer mandate, any company with 50 or more employees must provide health insurance to their employees or pay a fine of \$3,000 per employee, but illegal immigrants granted amnesty under the Senate bill are exempt from ObamaCare. So I ask you: What is the incentive to hire a legal American worker who would come with a health care price tag over an illegal worker who would not? None.

We have immigration laws for two reasons: to protect our national secu-

urity and to protect American jobs. The Senate bill violates both of those principles. So tell me, why would we do this?

I ask the House to consider my commonsense bills and put border security first. Let's put the safety of the American citizens first.

FAILURES OF OBAMACARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week while the American people were preparing to celebrate the 237th birthday of the Nation, the Obama administration announced, via a blog post, that it will provide an additional year before the employer reporting requirements and the employer shared responsibility requirements of ObamaCare take effect.

There are few issues as personal and significant in the lives of individuals and families as health and well-being, which is why the irony of reminding Americans that government now controls their health care during the week we celebrate our country's independence did not go unnoticed. Despite efforts to quietly buy time and obfuscate responsibility for this fatally designed health care law, most Americans rightfully view this delay as an admission of failure.

Mr. Speaker, the businesses that provide the jobs and the source of health care coverage for most Americans were not surprised by this announcement. Most are well aware that this law was thoughtlessly rammed through Congress in the middle of the night with a litany of technology flaws and other blatant failures.

Unfortunately, employers have been struggling with high health care costs since before the law passed. Given the combined pressure of new taxes and regulations, businesses are hurting exponentially worse now that the law's provisions have begun to take effect. These new government mandates incentivize businesses to reduce their workforce to under 50 full-time equivalency employees. To avoid financial penalties, the incentive under ObamaCare is to reduce individual hours to avoid these mandates. Employees now face the redefinition of "full-time" down to just 35 hours per week.

This law denies opportunities for growth that could and should be available and promoted. This is fundamentally counter to what a vibrant and robust American economy demands. Fewer jobs and reduced individual hours are not good for individuals, for families, for businesses, or for our economy. Nonetheless, employees and employers alike are experiencing the consequences of "Obama-sizing" both businesses and jobs.

By the time the law is fully implemented in 2023, the Congressional