

You got exactly what you wanted. One of the key spokesmen of the Tea Party, one of our colleagues said, and I quote:

We're very excited. It's exactly what we wanted, and we got it.

The American people deserve better.

FAIRNESS

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today about fairness. Last night, I sent a letter to our Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives asking that my salary be withheld during this government shutdown.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress are no better than anyone else in the State of Missouri or the United States. Families in my district and across the country are facing furloughs because President Obama and the Senate Democrats refuse to work and cooperate with House Republicans to stop the negative impact ObamaCare will have on our economy and our health care system.

Senate leaders and President Obama must be willing to work with conservatives here in the House. While our government is shut down, I'm refusing my congressional salary because Members of Congress should not be treated any differently than any other American; and I urge every colleague and every Senator to do the same.

IMPACTS OF THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Many years ago, during the last shutdown, my husband was a Federal employee, and we were impacted.

My husband used to leave the house every morning around 5:15, walk to the bus stop, like so many Federal employees, catch a bus at 5:30. And my son would have Cub Scouts maybe at 7, or some event that night, so he'd try to be home by quarter of 7.

And then one day, the government shut down. And I can't forget the sense of betrayal there. For all the hard work, for doing the people's work, this is what happened.

And now this is happening again today to so many. This is just wrong on every level.

The reason we have shut down the government is because they don't like the law. They don't like ObamaCare. They don't want all the people who have no insurance to get insurance today. They don't want people who have preexisting conditions now to be able to get health insurance.

Send us a clean bill. If you really want to work this out, send us a bill, take out the ObamaCare, take out the

part about birth control, take out all of your special stories there. Give us a clean bill, and we could pass it today.

But, instead, they want to hold the American government hostage.

THIS IS ABOUT MORE THAN OBAMACARE

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, the government is shut down today because Democrats like HARRY REID and the President refuse to negotiate. We, in the House, have sent not one, not two, not three, but four different spending proposals to the Senate. All were rejected without debate, and the Senate has refused to appoint conferees to even talk to us about it.

This is now about more than ObamaCare. This is now a fundamental debate about how we work in a divided Congress. Republicans must work with Democrats. The House must work with the Senate, and the Congress must work with the President.

During a Conference Call With Your Congressman last night that I hosted in the middle of all of this, Gloria Wilson from Corpus Christi said:

You make us feel like we have a voice.

Well, I am the voice of my constituents, and that's what we're doing here in the House. Compromise and coming together and doing what's right for the country is what the Founding Fathers intended when they set up two Houses of Congress and three branches of government.

We, in the House, are ready, willing, and able to negotiate with the President and the Senate. What we're not willing to do is give up our constitutional responsibility as guardians of America's purse and voices of our constituents.

LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in Psalm 118:24 it says:

This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is a day of rejoicing. The Republican wrecking ball that was supposed to take out ObamaCare has failed. It was a failed idea. It was a bad idea. And ObamaCare is going into effect today.

So rejoice. Everyone in this country now has a chance to have health insurance coverage. We've been waiting for 100 years since Teddy Roosevelt first proposed it. And finally, it's here.

Newt Gingrich said, if we allow Mrs. Clinton's health care plan to pass, the Democrats will be in for the next 60 years, like they were after we passed the Social Security Act of 1935.

Well, folks, that day is here. It's a glorious day. Rejoice. You can get your health insurance.

THE PLOT CONTINUES

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, almost before we finished our vote on the floor of the House calling for a conference committee to address concerns and try to face each other eye-to-eye, House-Senate, to come up with a solution, the phone lines were ringing and a robocall was sent out: while you were sleeping, your Member shut down the government.

This morning, I went to check and see how much further this plan had gone on, that purely said what was done for the last 2 weeks was political, to shut down the government, designed by the Senate Democrat leadership and the President of our United States.

I went to E-Verify. This is a computer program. E-Verify is unavailable due to the Federal Government shutdown. It's a computer.

The Panda Cam at the zoo was shut down. That's a camera. It's not a Federal employee.

Mr. Speaker, we offered fairness for the people of the United States, an option to make sure that we lived under the same plan that they do. The Senate rejected it.

We offered a compromise to go, simply, to a conference committee and discuss a plan of a way forward. It was rejected.

The plot continues. Political, not policy, not for the good of this country.

BIPARTISAN COOPERATION IS WHAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE EXPECT

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I associate myself with the remarks of Mr. McDERMOTT. It is a happy day for the American people because today people can begin enrolling in the Affordable Care Act.

Imagine if you were there when Social Security became the law of the land. Imagine if you were there when Medicare did—and two of our colleagues were, Mr. RANGEL and Mr. DINGELL.

But you are here when the third pillar of economic and health security for the American people is being put into place. It's historic: health care for all Americans, as a right, not just a privilege for the few. We'll talk more about it in the course of the day.

But I come to the floor to really address the issue of the government shutdown, an attempt to hold back the implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act. It didn't happen.

But what is happening is that our colleagues on the Republican side have