



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2013

No. 164

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BROOKS of Alabama).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 18, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MO BROOKS, to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 18, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 18, 2013 at 10:23 a.m.:

That the Senate agree to the House amendments to the bill S. 252.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party

limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

OBAMACARE MISREPRESENTATIONS AND SOLUTION

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on January 15, 2009, in order to get ObamaCare passed, President Obama promised America:

If you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan, period. No one will take it away, no matter what.

On June 28, 2012, in order to get reelection votes, President Obama promised:

If you're one of the more than 250 million Americans who already has health insurance, you will keep your health insurance. This law will only make it more secure and more affordable.

President Obama, in his recent apology for his deceptions, has not stopped the cancelation of millions, millions of Americans' health insurance plans nor slowed the ObamaCare-caused skyrocketing health insurance costs.

ObamaCare forces families to, on the one hand, pay higher ObamaCare health insurance costs and cut spending for food, shelter, and clothing or, on the other hand, go without health insurance and pay tax penalties while risking health-caused bankruptcy.

Montana Democrat Senator MAX BAUCUS, the Senate sponsor of ObamaCare, warned us earlier this year that ObamaCare was a train wreck waiting to happen. Well, the verdict is in. ObamaCare is dysfunctional and threatens the lives and finances of millions of real hardworking Americans.

Mark Templeton of Huntsville, Alabama, writes:

I just received a notice from BlueCross/BlueShield of Alabama yesterday, indicating

my Total Blue plan was no longer available due to the Affordable Care Act. My family coverage increased from \$450 a month to \$1,187 for similar coverage. They were kind enough to offer the more affordable and considerably worse Silver plan for only \$937 per month. I don't qualify for any subsidies, so this will directly hit my household finances. Please make every effort to stop the Affordable Care Act from affecting any more Tennessee Valley families and businesses.

Jessica Moore of Ardmore, Alabama, writes:

I am writing about the not-so Affordable Care Act. My health insurance premiums are going up by 118 percent with BlueCross/BlueShield. The Health Care Marketplace will be of no help to me, as I make "too much" money. I am a single Iraq veteran. I am my sole income. I am perfectly healthy. The amount which my premium was raised is how much money I have left in the bank at the end of the month. I do not live beyond my means. I am a faithful taxpayer. The Affordable Care Act premium hikes are not affordable to me, nor to many other honest taxpayers. Please help the already "taxed to the max" middle class on this issue.

ObamaCare has caused millions of Americans to receive health insurance cancelation letters, leaving them to struggle with how to protect their families. Thanks to ObamaCare, a year from now, tens of millions more Americans risk losing their health insurance once ObamaCare's employer mandate kicks in.

Mr. Speaker, while ObamaCare is dysfunctional and threatens American lives, there is a better way. The American Health Care Reform Act, which I have cosponsored, unleashes the power of free enterprise competition to deliver quality health care at prices Americans can better afford.

Among other things, this bill, first, forces lower health care costs by legalizing interstate competition among insurance companies; second, reforms medical malpractice laws so that health insurance is paying for health care, not frivolous lawsuits; third, lets Americans deduct health care costs

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H7155