

in my entire service on this body where there has been a partisan difference. We worked together for our Nation, and we worked together for human rights, and today we really can celebrate the successes. Sure we can say there are still many challenges in Europe, and former Yugoslavia obviously presents a tremendous challenge for us. But we celebrate our successes.

We have been successful in establishing democratic principles in most of the countries that were dominated by the former Soviet Union, and the Helsinki process has been key to those achievements; and we rightly celebrate that.

We also can celebrate the fact of what we did with Soviet Jews. The Helsinki process allowed many people to be able to leave the former Soviet Union.

We have an acknowledgment from Europe of the rights of ethnic minorities. There is no longer question that ethnic minorities are entitled to protection in their individual states. It is the right of every other participating state to raise those issues, and we do.

So, sure, there are challenges that are still remaining. We all understand that in Europe. But the Helsinki process is an unquestioned success. Today, by passing this resolution, we acknowledge that.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe we have any additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 100.

The question was taken.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-297)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that was declared in Executive Order 12865 of September 26, 1993.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 25, 2000.

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-297)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on developments concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, and matters relating to the measures in that order and in Executive Order 12959 of May 6, 1995, and in Executive Order 13059 of August 19, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 25, 2000.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

GOP'S FALSE "CHOICE"

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, a confidential document prepared for House Republicans somehow found its way into the public realm. It was not big news at the time, just some talking points. They were prepared by a Republican polling firm in response to the Democrats' Medicare prescription drug proposal.

According to their analysis, an effective way to create opposition to the

type of proposal offered by the President and House Democrats is to call it a "one-size-fits-all" plan, a "big government" plan, or worst of all, a "one-size-fits-all big government" plan.

One cannot blame the public for reacting to these phrases. I do not know anyone who likes big government simply for big government's sake. However, one can blame politicians for exploiting these terms instead of confronting the fundamental differences between the Democrat and Republican prescription drug proposals.

The Democrats' plan would add an optional drug benefit to Medicare. The Republican plan would bypass Medicare and subsidize private stand-alone insurance plans instead.

It is difficult to conceive of a program offering more choice than Medicare. The Medicare program covers medically necessary care and services. Beneficiaries can see their own health care professional and go to the facility that they choose.

Under the prescription drug plan, similarly, enrollees could go to the pharmacy of their choice. FDA-approved medications prescribed by a physician would be covered without regard to formulary restrictions.

Given this level of flexibility, how would a legion of new private plans enhance a beneficiary's choice in any way that matters? It is more likely these plans, like any other managed care product, would find ways of restricting choice which would, indeed, enhance something, their bottom line.

Medicare is a single plan that treats all beneficiaries equally and provides maximum choice and access for patients and doctors. The Democrats' prescription drug proposal embraces the same choice principles.

Under the Republican prescription drug proposal, Medicare beneficiaries would choose between private stand-alone insurance company prescription drug plans. Ostensibly, this would enable seniors to tailor their prescription drug coverage to their particular needs.

But what exactly would distinguish one private insurance plan from another private insurance plan? Realistically, the key differences would have to relate to the generosity and restrictiveness of the benefits, how many pharmacies would be covered, how stringent is the formulary, how much cost sharing would be required by the patient.

None of these plans could responsibly in any way, theoretically or practically, provide more choice than the Democrats' proposal in terms of which medications are covered, since the Democrats plan covers all doctor-prescribed medications.

None of these plans could provide a broader choice of pharmacy, since the Democrats' plan does not restrict access to pharmacies.