of scope, to the issue of exhaustion of remedies, to the issue of clinical trials, to the issue of the Senate, not in which we have worked with Senators BAYH and CARPER to make sure we have a consensus on what is covered, giving proper deference to the contract and the contractual language but making sure the independent review, and it have the ability to make sure that if particular treatments are needed, they can be provided.

So we started 2 weeks ago with a series of obstacles in front of us, starting with the independent review, and we have been able to reach consensus agreement.

There is great momentum to do something that really matters to the American people. The winners in this debate are not politicians. The winners of this debate are not the people within this Chamber. The winners are the American people and the families all over this country.

We have in this body an opportunity to do an extraordinary thing, which is to give people more control over their lives and more control, specifically, over their health care decisions, the things that affect their families and members of their families.

We have worked very hard—Republicans and Democrats—to try to get to the place where we have consensus on this legislation, and one by one by one the barriers to passing real patient protection have fallen to the floor.

The time has come. It is time to quit talking about it. It is time for the political debate to stop. It is time to do something that can really affect people’s lives. We have an extraordinary opportunity to do something important. We have made extraordinary progress toward that goal, but we are not quite there. We need to keep our nose to the grindstone, keep working, keep finishing this legislation, get it through the House, and get it on the President’s desk, with great hope and optimism that the President, when confronted with legislation that during his campaign he vowed to support, will stand by his vow and do what he has told us he would do. We are optimistic about that. We believe the President will do what is right for the American people.

So I thank my colleagues for all their work on this issue.

I ask my colleagues to vote, tomorrow morning against the Collins amendment and for the Breaux amendment, which is a bipartisan consensus that has been reached. And we will continue our work toward providing the American people the protection they need and they deserve.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.