

purchase, and language that allows funds to flow to abortions. What won't be in this bill is the Terry bill or amendment that allows people to join the same health care plans that we have as Members of Congress. Why? Because it's not controlled by the government and its bureaucrats.

Yes, this is about government control, where bureaucrats and Congress will be in control of your health care. And somehow the leadership and authors of these tricks in this bill wonder why the American people don't want this bill.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, to paraphrase James Agee, "In every child who is born, under no matter what circumstances, and of no matter what parents, the potentiality of the entire human race is born all over again." The Democrats say compassion is the fundamental motivation behind this government takeover bill. But if compassion was the motivation, Madam Speaker, Democrat leadership would not be so doggedly determined to include the increased taxpayer-funded murder of little unborn children in this bill. Nothing so completely destroys the notion that this bill is about compassion than the arrogant disenfranchisement of those who are helpless and have no voice. It is an unspeakable disgrace.

Madam Speaker, it is obvious that Democrats are determined to ram this bill down the throats of the American people using the so-called Slaughter solution, a shameless political gimmick that would avoid even an up-or-down vote on the bill. But if they do, Madam Speaker, the world will know that it was never about compassion, and Democrats will find that they have dangerously underestimated the American people.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, later this week the Speaker is going to ask the House to take the final vote on health care reform, including the Senate health care bill. The Senate bill contains such rarified legislative compromises as the Cornhusker kickback, the Louisiana purchase, and Gator aid, and for the first time ever, it allows for Federal funding for abortions. Nevertheless, the Speaker has asked us to vote on it. I understand my Democratic colleagues are being assured that the

Senate will take up the bill of fixes if the House will simply just pass their underlying reform bill.

I offer a word of caution to my friends on the other side of the aisle: once you pass their bill, there is not a guarantee that can be made that will force the Senate Democrats to take up your fixed bill and pass it. The bill that passed out of the Senate satisfies 59 sitting Senators, all of whom voted for it. The compromise that will pass out of this House will please far fewer. Simple logic tells us that the Senate Democrats do not have a real and abiding interest in bailing out House Democrats for having passed the Senate bill. Of course, simple logic has never really been a part of this debate.

Madam Speaker, my Democratic colleagues are playing a game of chicken with the United States Senate. In the end, the President might just go ahead and sign this Senate bill into law, along with the Cornhusker kickback, Louisiana purchase, Gator aid and abortion funding, and every other twisted deal jumbled into this mess.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, of this massive almost 3,000-page bill, there is not one thing that lowers cost; not one. A recent Heritage Foundation article focused on the fact that the health care system is fraught with perverse economic incentives that generate artificially high and rapidly increasing spending. This system does nothing to incentivize the doctor, the patient or the insurance company, let alone the Federal Government, to spend the health care dollars efficiently. However, I'm not suggesting that patients have to bear higher out-of-pocket costs. By this, the doctor and the patient must be reengaged, however, with the cost of their care. And how can we do that?

One amendment that we have tried to get into this bill a number of times and has failed is a robust system of health savings accounts for all. This way, we get to have our cake and eat it too. By that I mean that a portion of the insurance premiums should be put into a special medical spending account for those on all government and private insurance programs who would, in turn, be able to use tax-free funds for discretionary health care purchases. This would be the first step in turning patients into savvy health care consumers. As they save money for themselves, they will save it for the health care system at large, thus bending the cost curve downward.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, yesterday I held a town hall in Statesville, North Carolina, to hear from my constituents about health care reform. One thing was abundantly clear: they do not want this bill, and they're sick and tired of the backroom deals and provisions that have characterized this process. They wanted health care reform, but they were vehemently opposed to the Senate bill.

My constituents are asking me, If this is such a wonderful bill, why is the majority resorting to tricks and sleight of hand to get it passed? If this bill is so great, why not have a regular vote? The answer is simple: this is not a bill the American people want. Some Members acknowledge that.

Madam Speaker, we should listen to the American people. We should take an incremental approach to health care reform that the American people can support.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, as we are here today on the House floor, at this very moment the Democratic leadership of the House of Representatives is smiling and dialing. They are calling Members of Congress on the other side of the aisle, cajoling them and coaxing them and urging them to do the equivalent of really political bungee jumping, but they don't know how long the cord is. They are saying, You be the first one to jump off. We're going to vote for this Senate bill, and you are going to trust in the Senate to take it up and fix it. Or alternatively, even worse, we're not going to have a final vote on this bill.

Can you imagine a process that is this manipulated that is at this high stakes, literally the Federal Government taking over one-sixth of the economy really in the twinkling of an eye? And it is as if the Democratic leaders are telling the American public, Oh, look, we have got a wonderful plan for your life. You are just going to love it. We are going to vote on it, and then we'll let you read it.

Madam Speaker, we can do better. The American public demands that we do better, to vote "no" and start over.

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#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to not only the Democrats' health care proposal but to the outrageous process by