announced by the Court in the legislative veto case, and do serious damage to our commitment to representative government and the rule of law.

It is time to clarify the scope of executive authority vested in the presidency by article II of the Constitution. The Supreme Court has failed to address this issue and it is time for Congress to invoke the powerful weapons at its command. Through its ability to authorize programs and appropriate funds, Congress must now define and limit presidential power.

This is the danger: The road to tyranny does not begin by egregious usurpations, but by those which appear logical; meant to gain public support. We must not be lulled into complacency, because later they will be aimed directly at our fundamental liberties and at our representative self-government.

My colleagues, eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty.

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

(Mr. NETHERCUTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

URBAN SPRAWL

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the current politically-correct, fad issue with the liberal elite is what is called urban sprawl. Those who are shouting the loudest about this are for the most part people who are very anti-private property or at least people who are very lukewarm about property rights. They are usually wealthy environmental extremists, and ironically they are the very people who are the most responsible for urban sprawl in the first place.

Today, the Federal Government owns about 30 percent of the land in this Nation. State and local governments and quasi-governmental units own another 20 percent, so that almost half the land is in some type of public ownership. The most disturbing things, however, are, number one, the very rapid rate in which government has been taking over private property in the last 30 or 40 years; and, number two, the governmental restrictions being placed on the land that remains in private ownership now.

I attended a homebuilders meeting a few years ago in which they estimated that 60 percent of the developable land in this country would be off-limits with strict enforcement of our wetlands laws. Also, the Endangered Species Act has stopped or delayed for years the development of roads that would have saved many lives and has stopped construction and driven up costs of many homes. And there is something called the Wildlands Projects which the Washington Post said is a plan by environmentalists to place under public ownership half the land that remains as private property today.

I know that to many people, the word ''development'' has become almost a dirty word. But home ownership has always been a very important part of the American dream. Are those of us who have homes now going to say to young couples and young families, ''Well, we have ours but we don't want you to have yours''? Are we going to tell young people in small homes now that they cannot someday move to a bigger home because we basically have to stop all development? Are we going to tell homebuilders and construction workers that they are going to have to find some other work, probably at much lower pay?

No one wants our beautiful countryside turned into strip malls or parking lots, but development can be done in beautiful, environmentally sound ways. Old, unsightly buildings or blighted areas can be greatly improved. We should stop the local government appetite for farms which they then turn into industrial parks and give land at bargain-basement rates, sometimes to foreign corporations.

Why do I say environmentalists have caused a great deal of urban sprawl, indeed most of it? Well, just think about it. When more and more land is taken over by government or restricted from development, that forces more and more people on to smaller and smaller pieces of land. It also drives up the price of the remaining developable land, which also forces more people into apartments, townhouses or houses on postage-stamp-size lots.

Big government, brought on primarily by our liberal elite, has also caused urban sprawl. Big government has given most of its contracts, favorable regulatory rulings, and tax breaks to extremely big business. This has driven many small businesses and small farms out of existence.

Now the environmental extremists are aiming at agricultural run-off or spill-off. Rigid Federal rules and red tape hit the small farmers hardest and keep driving them out, which of course inures to the benefit of the big corporate farms. When the Federal Government drives small businesses and small farms and even small hospitals out of existence, it drives more and more people into the cities and causes more and more urban sprawl.

We need to remember that private property is one of the main things that has given us the great freedom and prosperity that we enjoy in this country today. It is one of the main things that sets us apart from nations like the former Soviet Union and other starvation-existence type countries.

Tom Bethell in his new book, ''The Noblest Triumph,'' says, ''Private property both disperses power and shields us from the coercion of others.'' He quotes Pope Leo XIII in 1891 who wrote that the ''fundamental principle of socialism, which would make all possessions public property, is to be utterly rejected because it injures the very ones whom it seeks to help.''

Brian Doherty, in the November 4 Journal of Commerce wrote that ''if the anti-sprawl agenda became a truly powerful political force, we would have to obey the dictates of busybody politicians who think it better for us to live in a crowded, central city walk-up than to have our own house with a two-car garage and a nice quarter-acre lawn.''

We should remember that private property is good for the environment because people always take better care of their own property than they do of property in public ownership. We should realize, too, that if we really want to stop urban sprawl, we must stop this stealth-like abolition of private property so even more people are not forced into central cities and overcrowded suburbs.

Mr. Speaker, we should stop government takeover of property and people will then have both the freedom and the opportunity to spread out.

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

(Mr. HORN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MANAGED CARE REFORM

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

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the newspapers across the country trumpeted a headline. Here is one from the Washington Post, similar to newspapers all across the country: HMO to Leave Care Decisions Up to Doctors. The subheading is United Health Care has 14.5 Million Clients.

The first three paragraphs read:

''United Health Care, one of the Nation's largest managed care companies, said yesterday that it will stop overruling doctors' decisions about what care patients should receive. The company, which covers 14.5 million people nationwide and more than 200,000 people in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, is abandoning a cornerstone of the managed care industry's cost containment strategy and one of the features most responsible for the outpouring of public ill will toward managed care. United says it is taking the final say out of the hands of managed care bureaucrats and returning it to the treating physician because requiring doctors to get prior authorization was costing more money than it saved.''

Now, think about this. This is the Nation's second largest HMO, in the