

taken over the auto companies. We've nationalized the energy sector with cap-and-trade.

And now our friends on the other side want to nationalize the health care sector, 17 percent of our economy, a government takeover with new government mandates. And one of those hidden mandates is for abortion coverage in every insurance plan, public or private, in America.

At a time when the number of abortions is declining, doctors performing abortions are declining, the number of abortion clinics is declining, the Congress and White House want to mandate abortion coverage in every insurance plan, public or private; another bailout in this bill, this one for the abortion industry.

What would the result be? Less jobs, more taxes, massive government spending, and a mountain of debt on our kids and grandkids.

THE TIME IS NOW TO ENACT A HEALTH CARE PLAN FOR ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke of the fierce urgency of now. He talked about the fact that you cannot set a deadline or timeline on somebody else's freedom. Well, there's another civil rights movement going on today in America, and that is the right for health care.

Health care is what we need now, and we cannot delay. I urge my colleagues to come together and pass a health care reform bill before we go out for the August recess because people absolutely need it, people who are fearing being dropped or put off for preexisting conditions, people being subject to discrimination because of their age or their gender.

We've got to stop this. We have got to make sure that a caring Nation cares for the health of its people. The time is now. We cannot delay. We've had enough time, Madam Speaker.

Six decades America has debated about what to fix about our broken health care system. We've done 45 hours of markups, 79 House hearings, 215 pages of bills and work to make sure that we have every input and every point of view shared.

The time is now, Madam Speaker.

LET'S GET A BIPARTISAN COMPROMISE ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, last night President Obama addressed the American public and urged Congress to pass health care reform. As a physician who has seen the shortcomings of our system, I am glad

he strongly urges reform. I want to correct something he said about why Republicans oppose this plan and support other measures.

First, he said a public plan was needed to keep insurance companies honest. Republicans don't oppose insurance reform. We wholeheartedly embrace it. We oppose the public plan because it's a backhanded attempt at moving towards a government-run system where care is provided not because it's the best but because it costs the least or, worse, it's rationed.

Second, he said the wealthiest Americans should shoulder the burden for everyone's health care with a surtax. What he didn't say is that those same wealthy Americans are many of the same people we're relying on to create jobs and help reduce the staggering unemployment rate. You can't have it both ways. We can't dramatically increase taxes on the wealthiest Americans to some of the highest taxes in the world and then turn around and expect job creation.

We support ensuring patients can get the care they need from their physician, reforming the insurance industry, making health care more affordable through cost containment and tax credits. Let's get these ideas, sit down and hammer out a bipartisan compromise.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Whereas the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Price, submitted an amendment to the Committee on Rules to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010;

Whereas the said gentleman's amendment would have required that none of the funds made available in this Act be used to establish, issue, implement, administer, or enforce any prohibition or restriction on the otherwise lawful possession or use of firearms in federally assisted housing;

Whereas the Second Amendment of the United States constitution guarantees that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed";

Whereas the Second Amendment applies equally to all Americans, regardless of who owns or pays for their housing;

Whereas the gentleman's amendment complied with all applicable Rules of the House for amendments to appropriations measures and would have been in order under an open amendment process, but regrettably the House Democratic leadership has dramatically and historically reduced the opportunity for open debate on this Floor; and

Whereas the Speaker, Mrs. Pelosi, the Democrat leadership, and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Obey, prevented the House from voting on the amendment by excluding it from the list of amendments made in order under the rule for the bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That H. Res. 669, the rule to accompany H.R. 3288, be amended to allow the gentleman from Georgia's amendment to be considered and voted on in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Georgia will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Whereas the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Hensarling—along with the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Conaway, the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Gingrey, and the gentlewoman from Tennessee, Mrs. Blackburn—submitted an amendment to the Committee on Rules to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act;

Whereas the said gentleman's amendment would have encouraged the development and use of alternative fuels by the federal government from resources found abundantly in the United States and Canada such as oil sands and oil shale, furthering our ability to become more energy independent, reducing the federal government's energy costs borne by the American taxpayer;

Whereas, this is especially important at a time of a record deficit that has reached \$1 trillion for the first time in American history and a record debt that will be tripled in 10 years;

Whereas, the said amendment could help in the creation of desperately needed jobs in an economy where the unemployment rate is 9.5%—the highest unemployment rate in 26 years and climbing—and 2.6 million people have lost their job since February 2009;

Whereas, when campaigning for the presidency, then-Senator Obama said that "under my plan of a cap and trade system, electricity rates would necessarily sky rocket.";

Whereas, on June, 26, 2009, the Democratic Majority passed such legislation in H.R. 2454, a national energy tax also known as cap and trade, that experts have estimated will result in American families paying anywhere from \$1,500 to \$3,000 annually in additional energy costs;

Whereas, on December 6, 2006, then-Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi said, "[W]e promised the American people that we would have the most honest and open government and we will.";

Whereas, according to then-Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi's New Direction for America, "Bills should generally come to the floor

under a procedure that allows open, full, and fair debate consisting of a full amendment process that grants the Minority the right to offer its alternatives, including a substitute.”;

Whereas a similar amendment was adopted by the House in 2008 during consideration of H.R. 6599, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2009 on a bipartisan vote;

Whereas the gentleman’s amendment complied with all applicable Rules of the House for amendments to appropriations measures and would have been in order under an open amendment process, but regrettably the House Democratic leadership has dramatically breached decades of House precedent and historically reduced the opportunity for open debate on this Floor; and

Whereas the Speaker, Mrs. Pelosi, the Democratic leadership, and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Obey, prevented the House from voting on the amendment by excluding it from the list of amendments made in order under the rule for the bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That H. Res. 669, the rule to accompany H.R. 3288, be amended to allow the gentleman from Texas’ amendment be considered and voted on in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Texas will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as to the question of privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Whereas the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. BROUN submitted an amendment to the Committee on Rules to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010;

Whereas the said gentleman’s amendment would have required that none of the funds made available in this Act be used for bike paths;

Whereas transportation appropriations have previously been used to build and repair bike paths;

Whereas the construction and repair of bike paths is not a legitimate function of the federal government, since they do not contribute to interstate transportation or interstate commerce;

Whereas the gentleman’s amendment complied with all applicable Rules of the House for amendments to appropriations measures and would have been in order under an open

amendment process, but regrettably the House Democratic leadership has dramatically and historically reduced the opportunity for open debate on this Floor; and

Whereas the Speaker, Mrs. PELOSI, the Democratic leadership, and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. OBEY, prevented the House from voting on the amendment by excluding it from the list of amendments made in order under the rule for the bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That H. Res. 669, the rule to accompany H.R. 3288, be amended to allow the gentleman from Georgia’s amendment be considered and voted on in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Georgia will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of privilege of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Whereas the gentleman from Kansas, Mr. TIAHRT submitted an amendment to the Committee on Rules to H.R. 3288, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010; Whereas the said gentleman’s amendment would have prohibited salaries and expenses from being paid to individuals who obligate money under the stimulus FHWA program for road signs that are placed at construction sites to alert motorists that the project is being paid for by stimulus money; Whereas the gentleman’s amendment complied with all applicable Rules of the House for amendments to appropriations measures and would have been in order under an open amendment process, but regrettably the House Democratic leadership has dramatically and historically reduced the opportunity for free speech on this Floor; and,

Whereas the Speaker, Mrs. PELOSI, the Democratic leadership, and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. OBEY, prevented the House from voting on the amendment by excluding it from the list of amendments made in order under the rule for the bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That H. Res. 669, the rule to accompany H.R. 3288, be amended to allow the gentleman from Kansas’s amendment be considered and voted on in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as

a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Kansas will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a resolution as a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of my resolution is as follows:

Whereas the gentlewoman from Minnesota, Mrs. Bachmann submitted an amendment to the Committee on Rules to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010;

Whereas the said gentlewoman’s amendment would have protected American taxpayers by prohibiting funds made available in the Act from being used to fund any organization that has been indicted for violations of state or federal election laws—or that employs people who have—such as the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN);

Whereas a similar provision was adopted by the House in 2008 during consideration of H.R. 3221, the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, and became law on June 30, 2008, but does not currently apply to all programs funded in the underlying bill;

Whereas the gentlewoman’s amendment complied with all applicable Rules of the House for amendments to appropriations measures and would have been in order under an open amendment process, but regrettably the House Democratic leadership has dramatically and historically reduced the opportunity to protect American taxpayers on this Floor; and

Whereas the Speaker, Mrs. Pelosi, the Democratic leadership, and the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Obey, prevented the House from voting on the amendment by excluding it from the list of amendments made in order under the rule for the bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That H. Res. 669, the rule to accompany H.R. 3288, be amended to allow the gentlewoman from Minnesota’s amendment be considered and voted on in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentlewoman from Minnesota will appear in the RECORD at this point.