

neighborhoods and other things like that so we can deal with the obesity problem, so we can deal with smoking cessation, and all the things that contribute to poor health and really increase the costs. When we look at communities and focus on community prevention, that's where we're going to reduce the cost of health care.

So, I wanted to just say a word about Medicare because I am so tired of hearing about \$500 billion taken out of—cut from Medicare. Now, that's a misinterpretation of what really happened. That \$500 billion comes from cutting waste, fraud, and abuse in part.

I was reading in an article in the paper just today that Medicare could probably save \$70 billion just in 1 year, in 2010, by really zeroing in on waste, fraud, and abuse and implementing some of the recommendations of the General Accountability Office—they could save \$70 billion in 1 year. Multiply that by ten, I think it comes up to \$700 billion, which is more than the \$500 billion that the Republicans keep saying we took out of Medicare.

We didn't. We made payments fairer, remember, by making the payments more equitable across the board. So we may have lowered some of the reimbursement rates for Medicare Advantage, but we were able to still keep some of the better, more effective Medicare Advantage programs in place.

We began to close the doughnut hole. We took some of that money to close the doughnut hole so that over the 10-year period there will be no time that a senior or a person with disability will have to pay the full cost of their medication.

We are providing preventive care with no copayments and an annual physical exam with no copayment. And in addition to all of that, with that \$500 billion, we extended the life of Medicare by 8 years.

So I just want to clear that up. We did not take \$500 billion out of Medicare. We used it to reinvest into Medicare, to make it stronger, to provide more services and more benefits for the beneficiaries.

Of course, health care reform will take an investment, but it will reduce costs over time. We'll reduce disparities, we'll have better end-of-life care with planning by individuals and their families, we'll have that community-based prevention, obesity prevention, smoking cessation and health policy and every policy that I talked about. And all of that will reduce the cost of health care.

I just want to close by just reading a few statements from some physicians. I'm a primary care physician, a family physician myself. And Medscape today published an article from a primary care round table. And I know the doctors who spoke here said many, many things. I just want to quote a sentence or two from several of them.

Charles P. Vega, M.D. At the end of his statement he says:

The Supreme Court decision breathes life into the health care reform movement at a

critical time, and we need to take advantage of this fortune, not only to implement the most important parts of the Affordable Care Act, but also to start building towards the next logical steps in health care reform, beginning with an efficient public option that emphasizes smart, quality care.

And Dr. Robert W. Morrow says:

And now we're in a regulatory space where the health of the public could take precedence over the profits of the commercial health plans. And why not?

Dr. Roy M. Poses, M.D., says of the Supreme Court ruling:

The news is not bad. We're probably, on balance, somewhat better off with some health care insurance reform than none. However, we're still a long way from meaningfully addressing concentration and abuse of power in health care. There will be no rest for the weary bloggers of the Health Care Renewal.

Another doctor, Dr. Li, says:

My take is that the plan is not as good as what's being touted by the left, but it's far better than what's being said by the right.

And Dr. Robert M. Centor says:

Clearly, upholding the individual mandate allows the U.S. to approach universal health care. Universal health care is such a worthy goal that we must applaud this victory.

Dr. Mark Williams says:

For me the Supreme Court ruling on the ACA implies at least a period of relative clarity and less uncertainty, despite much political rhetoric. In short, we now have some time for planning and innovation.

And he also says:

Healthcare is too precious to be considered a business or a marketplace commodity. Whatever system we choose must commit itself to the needs of the population and the global community, not simply to our own personal needs. It must be based on needs and not simply on service expansion.

And lastly, from my own American Academy of Family Practice, they say:

Having the mandate upheld is consistent with what has been AAFP policy for over 20 years. We have advocated for health care coverage for everyone and access to at least basic health services, including good primary care with prevention and chronic illness care. You can argue whether the mandate is the only means to get there, but at least in the analyses that I've seen, it was one of the best identified ways to get everyone covered.

And so, the American people, when you ask them about the different provisions of the law, an overwhelming majority really supports the provisions that we've been able to provide for them in health care reform.

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Many physicians are touting the Supreme Court decision and the law. I think, if we can all forget about the political rhetoric of repeal and just work together to make sure that it's implemented in the best way possible, we will really be doing what the American people have sent us here to do.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6079, REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-587) on the resolution (H. Res. 724) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6079) to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and health care-related provisions in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND BROKEN PROMISES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

These can be the best of times and the worst of times. There is still so much potential. This country has so much in the way of assets. It is interesting to hear my friends across the aisle talk about the wonders of ObamaCare, but I know this President has said before: if you make more than \$250,000, you won't ever have your taxes raised. I won't ever raise your taxes.

He has said it a lot of different ways. Yet, when I read his version of the American Jobs Act, which he, himself, pushed for, promulgated, demanded be passed, it actually raised taxes on everybody who made more than \$125,000. So he broke the promise there.

In ObamaCare, it's very clear that, if you make just above the poverty line and if you can't afford the kind of Cadillac insurance that is demanded that you purchase, you're going to get hammered with a tax, and it will ultimately be 2½ percent in extra income tax. He basically has pushed through a bill that makes war with those who can least afford to buy health insurance—adding a 2½ percent tax to the people who are the most vulnerable and hardworking folks. They're just trying to get by, and they're going to have to pay an extra 2½ percent in income tax?

Now, the enlightened Chief Justice explains through pages 11 through 15 of his opinion that it's actually not a tax, that it's clearly a penalty because, if you don't buy the insurance at the high level the government will dictate, then it will be necessary for you to pay an extra hunk of income tax—those who are the hardworking, least able to afford it. I don't see how anybody can say, It's great, and a happy day for you.

If you go through the rest of his opinion, of course he says the Commerce Clause doesn't make the ObamaCare bill constitutional; but then he gets around to saying, Well, regardless of what Congress called it—you know,