

Act, they should be thinking about theConnies of the world.

Sharon from Franklin County in the middle of State, Columbus, is a lupus patient. She writes:

I urge you to maintain the health care reform that helps us afford coverage. Before Congress starts gutting the health care reform, please visit a support group for any chronic illness, and listen to the stories of people struggling to pay their medical bills, about people being denied insurance due to preexisting conditions, cutting their meds in half to try to stretch them to the end of the month.

My wife was in a drugstore not too long ago. Right in front of her, somebody was trying to figure out: Can I skip, take half this number of pills so they last twice as long? That happens all the time. If more of us would get out to a drugstore, if more of us would get out and talk to people, we would learn that.

Sharon writes:

I have got a good education, a good job, good insurance, but I know I could be wiped out in a matter of months if my job were outsourced or discontinued. Since I work at home and telecommute due to my illness, my chances at a new job and new health insurance are grim. The health care reform bill isn't perfect, but when it was passed, a collective sigh of relief went up for millions of Americans who are struggling to maintain their jobs, their families, and their lives while suffering with chronic illnesses like lupus. Please don't play politics with our lives. Please don't gut the health care bill.

Again the question is, Why do my colleagues—almost all of whom have health insurance provided by taxpayers—why do they want to take these benefits away from Sharon and Connie?

A couple more.

Rose from Hamilton County writes:

Senator Brown, please vote no to repeal the health care law. My family and friends appreciate the added benefits we are getting from the current health care law. My son's fiancée is currently finishing her graduate degree.

She is 25.

Thank God she is able to remain on her parents' insurance; otherwise she would not be able to afford the high cost of private insurance.

This a young woman about whom Rose is writing. This is a young woman who wants to get more education, wants to do better in life, wants to further her career, but what will happen? If she cannot stay on her parents' plan, if my colleagues are successful in repealing the Affordable Care Act, what will happen to her? Why should we even be asking that question?

My niece graduated last year from college and has not been able to find a full-time teaching job.

She is doing what we need more of—good teachers in our country.

Fortunately, she too can now stay on her parents' insurance because of the health care law. In addition—

She has an illness—

the current health care law ensures that when it's time for her to get her own health insurance, she will not be discriminated against.

This woman, Rose's niece, is in this situation. She is right out of school. She wants to teach. She does not have a job yet. She is on her parents' health insurance plan. Then when she gets a job, if it were not for the Affordable Care Act, she probably would be denied coverage because she has a preexisting condition. So she is a perfect example of two things about this law that my colleagues for whatever reason want to take away.

I will close with this. Chris from Fairfield County—kind of southeast of Columbus—writes:

Senator, I just wanted to thank you for standing by the health care law. I now have insurance after 4 years without it. I am now receiving treatment for my knee after 3 years of pain and swelling. Turns out I have arthritis and I go to an orthopedic surgeon next week for further diagnosis and treatment. Without the insurance I purchased through the exchange, the x-ray that discovered the arthritis would have never been possible because I could not afford it.

So, again, why would my colleagues—almost all of whom have health insurance—why would they want to take those benefits away? Why would they say to this person in Fairfield County—why would they say to Chris: Well, sorry, you are not going to get that x ray.

In the end, what would happen? Chris would not get the x ray, would not know about the arthritis until it gets worse, and then it would cost the health insurance company more money.

Part of what the Affordable Care Act does—and the Presiding Officer played a role in writing many provisions of this law—part of what it does is it encourages and gives people incentives to get preventive care.

So if we repeal this law, if my colleagues—again, I know I said this over and over, but almost all of whom have health insurance provided to them by taxpayers—if they have their way, all of these people—Chris and Rose and Sharon and Connie—where do they turn? Where do they turn? Their lives end up worse. They end up being sicker. They possibly die younger. They end up costing the health care system more money. They are less productive as citizens. The niece and the son-in-law and the fiancée one of these ladies talked about would not be able to get an education, get ahead—all of the things we say we value in this country.

How can any anybody think in good conscience that repealing the Affordable Care Act makes sense for our families, makes sense for our communities, makes sense for the States of Minnesota and Ohio, makes sense for our country?

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:30 p.m., Monday, November 17, all postcloture time be considered expired with respect to the House message to accompany S. 1086; that the motion to concur with amendment No. 3923 be withdrawn; and the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 1086; that upon the disposition of the House message, the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on cloture on Executive Calendar Nos. 856, Abrams; 857, Cohen; and 858, Ross; further, that if cloture is invoked on any of these nominations, that on Tuesday, November 18, following the Senate's action with respect to S. 2280, as provided under a previous order, the Senate proceed to executive session, that all postcloture time be considered expired, and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order upon which cloture was invoked; further, with respect to the nominations in this agreement, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that upon disposition of the Ross nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and the motion to proceed to S. 2685; that there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees on the motion to proceed; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2685; further, that with any sequence of multiple votes there be 2 minutes for debate prior to each vote and all rollcall votes after the first vote in each sequence be 10 minutes in length; and, finally, that the time in opposition to S. 2280 be under the control of Senator BOXER or her designee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH AND TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as another polar vortex bears down on States across the country this week, we must consider how the dropping temperatures across the Nation will impact those who do not have refuge from the cold. The issue of homelessness is especially urgent in places like my home State of Vermont. For those of us lucky enough to have warm homes, winter brings a magical beauty. But for those without shelter, the cold