

Exhibit 20

This Congress is irresponsible in our spending. We have increased the debt the likes of which this Nation has never seen, and we are spending as if it is going out of style.

I would point out one matter here about the interest we pay on the debt. In 2008, the annual deficit was \$450 billion—at that time, the largest ever. This past year, the deficit for the fiscal year ending September 30 was \$1,400 billion, \$1.4 trillion. This puts us on the map, according to the Congressional Budget Office, to double the entire debt of America in 5 years, and triple it in 10. Unbelievable.

This is a kind of gimmick—attaching unpaid for, nonbudgeted items to the defense bill, then trying to force it through, so we cannot do anything about it. They snicker, I am sure, in their self-confident way that: We got 'em. If they object to the bill, we will say they don't love our soldiers, they don't support America's defense.

I am getting tired of it. I think the American people are getting tired of it. I saw a poll where the most popular party in America today is the tea party—more than Republicans or Democrats.

Somebody said: Well, \$18 billion, Sessions, that is not too much money. But it is done on bill after bill. This is not the only bill that has these kinds of gimmicks in it. Let me show you. I figured this out one day. I put together a chart here a little bit hastily: *Baseline Increases: A Destructive Pattern*.

When we increase funding in these bills above the budgeted amount and increase the debt, people like to think: Well, it is just \$18 billion. That is not much.

Look how that works when you do it over a period of ten years. So let's say next year, we go over \$18 billion. This adds another \$18 billion to the national debt. Well, that is not so much. But wait, it is a lot. The State of Alabama's general fund budget is \$2 billion. Do not tell me \$18 billion in one bill, on top of this defense bill, is not a lot of money. It is a huge amount of money.

But it does not work that way. This \$18 billion tends to go into the baseline, so the next year, when they talk about increasing the budget, they pad it by another \$18 billion. It is not just \$18 billion the next year, you see. It is \$18 billion on top of what was pumped into the baseline the year before, and that totals out to \$36 billion. Then the next year, it is \$36 billion, plus \$18 billion more. And the next year, it is \$54 billion, plus \$18 billion more. The next year it is \$72 billion, plus \$18 billion. The next year, it is \$90 billion, plus \$18 billion. And the next years, it is \$108 billion, \$126 billion, \$144 billion, and \$162 billion if you pad the budget. And this bill is just 1 of 13 accounts: Defense. We have 13 different spending bills. How much is that? It is \$900 billion in additional deficits, just because of our inability, our unwillingness, to stay by the numbers that we voted on as our budget limit.

The budget itself, as presented by the President and passed by the Democratic majority, put us on a road to having \$1.4 trillion in deficit last year, and it looks as though this year we are going to have another \$1.4 trillion deficit. But just this one little gimmick, if it is replicated each year, can add almost \$1 trillion more to the debt of America over ten years. That is why we are concerned about it.

By the way, when we talk about the scheme that puts us on the road, according to the Congressional Budget Office, to tripling the debt of America by 2019, that does not include the health care bill. The health care bill has not passed. This outlook only includes the things that are in law now. So how much more would those figures be if the debt goes up?

I will point to one last thing about the overall financial status of this country: the interest we pay on that debt. This chart shows it.

Last year, this Nation paid \$170 billion in interest on the borrowings we have as a nation. In that 1 year it was \$170 billion. That is a lot of money. As I said, not counting the State education budget, for all the other matters of our State of 4.6 million people—which is almost one-fiftieth of the Nation's population, an average-sized State—our general fund is \$2 billion. However, \$170 billion is how much we paid in interest last year. According to the Congressional Budget Office, those numbers will increase to where in 2019, as a result of surging debt, \$799 billion will be added to our debt because of interest we must pay; \$799 billion just in that 1 year. That is more than the whole defense budget. That is more than the whole U.S. discretionary budget from not too long ago. That is a huge amount of money. It is going to crowd out spending for schools, for highways, for health care, and for other projects.

I am very upset about it. We cannot continue. The President has said this is an unsustainable course. Every economist we talk to says it is an unsustainable course.

But how do we get there? We get there by taking a Defense bill and tacking on \$18 billion worth of unfunded spending. Every penny of that gets added to the debt.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the Chair.

I urge my colleagues to send this bill back and reform it so we can have a clean Defense bill. We need to take these unpaid matters out and make sure they are paid for.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I rise today to recognize this incredible opportunity to dramatically improve the health of our Nation. Americans face out-of-control health care costs, great inequalities in access to care, eroding benefits, and the ever-increasing threat of losing their health insurance. While it is no easy task to fix a

system that is both very complex and very troubled, we cannot fail to act.

I wish today to highlight the challenges faced by approximately 12 million Americans who buy health insurance in the individual market. Many farming and ranching families in South Dakota are forced to purchase from this market, where they all too often wind up underinsured with coverage that costs too much and provides too little.

South Dakotans have contacted me directly to report health insurance discrimination that results in increased premiums, refusal of coverage for necessary treatments, and denial of coverage. I have even heard complaints from people who work in the insurance industry, like Pam from Sioux Falls, SD. She shared with me the serious barriers people encounter when looking for health insurance on the individual market. "There are huge loopholes in the individual market. People who are not healthy cannot get insurance. We turn people away every day and they want to buy health insurance."

Insurance companies increase their profits by selling to individuals who will pay premiums but rarely use their benefits, and by avoiding individuals who have health issues. This cherry-picking leaves millions of Americans without access to affordable health insurance coverage. And when families go without health insurance, they receive less preventive care and often must undergo more costly medical treatment when illness progresses undetected. This uncompensated care for the uninsured drives health care costs up for all of us.

Those who buy insurance on the individual market pay top dollar for very limited coverage. They will benefit immensely from health reform. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will increase the insurance options in the individual market and address injurious insurance industry practices that limit access to care. Immediately after enactment, a new program will be created to provide affordable coverage to Americans with preexisting conditions until insurance industry reforms are fully implemented. The legislation will also form health insurance exchanges in every State through which those limited to the individual market will have access to affordable and meaningful coverage. The exchange will provide easy-to-understand information on various health insurance plans, help people find the right coverage to meet their needs, and provide tax credits to significantly reduce the cost of purchasing that coverage.

Pam says, "People who want to buy individual insurance should be able to, regardless of their health status." I couldn't agree more. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will ensure that no American is denied coverage because of their medical history, and it will provide the security of meaningful, affordable health care coverage for all.