

Stephen Colbert—The Extended Metaphor

from *The Colbert Report*, Oct. 14, 2009:

<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/252712/october-14-2009/pat-roberts-warns-against-health-care-box-canyon>

Yesterday the Senate Finance Committee approved their version of the health-care bill. . . . Folks, this bill is a nightmare. Thankfully, Kansas Republican Pat Roberts put the danger in terms we can all understand:

I am terribly concerned that we are riding hell for leather into a health-care box canyon full of spending quicksand, cactus tax hikes, policy briar patches, complete with CMS regulatory rattlesnakes, scorpions, and bad-news bears. I yield back the balance of my time.

Don't yield it! There's more to that metaphor [*puts on a cowboy hat and starts chewing on a piece of straw*]. You see, folks, we're on a run-away stagecoach of big government being chased by the coyotes of increased deficits and heading right into an ambush by the Comanche-in-Chief and his hope Hopis. Unless the marshal of fiscal responsibility arrives on the noon train of free-market principles to drive these saloon girls of new taxes out, the pick-up truck of high premiums will get eaten by the death-panel prairie dogs, and the Boot Hill tumbleweed sarsaparilla varmint six-shooter cattle-rustling you-think-you've-used-enough-dynamite-there fistful of dollars--yeow!

Analysis: Using the A = B metaphor formula, generate a list that identifies the different aspects of the two things he's comparing to extend this metaphor to ridiculous lengths.

A (Government Health Care Reform) | **B** (Wild West)

Senator Roberts	▪ health care bill		box canyon
	▪ spending		quicksand
	▪ tax hikes		cactus
	▪ policies		briar patches
Stephen Colbert	▪		
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