

An Appeal to Congress and the President: Save Medicare

To ensure that Medicare will continue to provide health care access to older Americans and people with disabilities, we ask Congress and the president to :

1. **Create a prescription drug benefit entirely within the original Medicare program**, without relying on private insurance.
2. **Require Medicare to negotiate the prices** it pays for drugs to lower the cost of drugs.
3. **End the overpayments to private "Medicare Advantage" plans** which are draining Medicare's trust funds.
4. **Eliminate the "premium support" voucher experiment that's due to start in 2010 in at least six cities.** Through the use of vouchers, traditional Medicare will unfairly have to compete with government subsidized private plans. This will weaken Medicare.
5. **End the new higher premiums for higher income seniors now being phased in for Part B.** Higher premiums for some will erode universal support for Medicare.
6. **Launch a congressional study of Medicare's long-term finances** to find out why medical and drug costs are rising so fast in the U.S. Then pass laws to fix Medicare to ensure that seniors get the health care they need.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Address & zip</u>	<u>phone</u>	<u>.</u>
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Return petition to:
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