



You Can't Talk About Health Care.... Without Talking About Medicare!

As Congress debates health care reform, the conversation must include meaningful measures that address the growing needs of America's seniors. More and more, rising costs and tighter purse strings are forcing seniors to make unacceptable choices between food, housing and their health care needs.

We urge our members of Congress to remember America's seniors by including the following items in all health care reform discussions:

STOP MEDICARE PRIVATIZATION

We must stop the privatization of Medicare by: 1) overpayments to Medicare Advantage and 2) the Medicare Privatization Project beginning in 2010.

IMPROVE PART D

Medicare Part D must be fixed to allow for real access to affordable drugs for seniors. Needed changes include: 1) allowing the government to bargain for drug prices, 2) eliminating the doughnut hole, and 3) increasing consumer rights to change plans mid-year.

COVER RETIREES AGES 55 TO 64 THROUGH MEDICARE

In the health care reform conversation, we cannot forget retirees, ages 55 to 64, who fall into the gap between receiving employer insurance and accessing Medicare. These retirees should be allowed to join Medicare.

For more information, check out the Alliance for Retired Americans website, www.retiredamericans.org.

