Future of Medicare Advantage in Jeopardy: Are You in Danger of Losing Your Preferred Care?

Members of the Seniors Coalition legislative team recently attended a hearing held by the House Ways and Means Committee, Subcommittee on Health, to learn about the negative effects Obamacare will have on the incredibly popular Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan. Chairman Kevin Brady used his opening statement to declare that Medicare Advantage is the most popular and successful part of Medicare, and that Obamacare will slash 300 billion dollars from the program over the next ten years.

“Taking 300 billion dollars out of a program that seniors rely on for proper care will be devastating” states President and CEO Joseph Bridges, “reports have shown that on average seniors enrolled in Medicare Advantage will lose $1,500 per year in benefits due to Obamacare.” Medicare Advantage is clearly one of the most successful and popular parts of Social Security, yet it is continually targeted by the current Administration. “Our members and supporters have already helped The Seniors Coalition win several

Seniors Coalition Members Brace for October Cost of Living Adjustment (CoLA) Announcement

It’s that time of year again, the time of year when the politicians and bureaucrats will try to do anything they can to save money on the backs of senior citizens. We’ve seen it before, no CoLA in 2010 and again in 2011. Then, a measly CoLA in 2012, followed by a low ball number in 2013, that was basically offset by rising Medicare premiums. Well this year will be different. It’s time to guarantee a minimum 3% CoLA for all of America’s seniors and H.R. 1585 is the way to do that.

That is exactly what The Seniors Coalition, and its members and supporters, are trying to accomplish. The Seniors Coalition recently sent a letter to every member of the House of Representatives urging them to do right by America’s senior citizens and cosponsor Congressman Elliot Engel’s bill, H.R. 1585, the Guaranteed 3% CoLA Act of 2013. “In 2010 and 2011, seniors were denied their annual CoLA,” says President and CEO Joseph Bridges, “And then last year the CoLA was a paltry 1.5%. That’s an insult. Any sane person
Seniors Coalition Members Brace for October Cost of Living Adjustment (CoLA) Announcement

who purchases any form of goods or services knows there has been significant inflation. The Federal Government should be ashamed to treat such a valuable part of our society with such blatant disrespect,” concluded Bridges.

“Our membership is very active and politically in tune with what’s going on in Washington,” claims Executive Director Sean Ferritor. “But an increasingly large number of Seniors Coalition members rely entirely on their Social Security benefits to survive,” Ferritor continued. “It’s time to get proactive and that’s why the loyal membership of The Seniors Coalition has amassed nearly 250,000 signed petitions in favor of a guaranteed 3% CoLA.”

The Seniors Coalition has been working closely with Congressman Engel’s office to gain cosponsors for this important piece of legislation and will continue to work together until the job is finished. Our membership will not sit idly as the government continues to pull magic numbers out of a hat to divert money for their pet projects. Call your elected officials today at 202-224-3121 and urge them to co-sponsor H.R. 1585. ▲

Dear Friend,

I feel like I don’t get to thank the loyal members and supporters of The Seniors Coalition enough for all your help. So this month I want to celebrate the people that make The Seniors Coalition’s mission a possibility.

THANK YOU to all of our loyal members and supporters who take the time and energy to participate in our National petition drives. THANK YOU to all Seniors Coalition members who make sacrifices from their monthly Social Security budget to support a group that will never stop fighting for its members and the issues that are important to you. And lastly, THANK YOU to the members who participate in our surveys who help sculpt each year’s legislative agenda. THANK YOU.

As I have said many times, it’s you who drives the Seniors Coalition. It’s because of you that we are on Capitol Hill fighting the tough battles, and it’s because of you that we are able to have so much success in protecting the rights of senior citizens. So, again, I say THANK YOU to all our loyal members and supporters, and I look forward to working for you in 2015.

Dr. Joseph L. Bridges
President & CEO
The Seniors Coalition
Future of Medicare Advantage in Jeopardy: Are You in Danger of Losing Your Preferred Care?

battles on Capitol Hill this year, including defeating the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Service’s 700-page rule change to Medicare Advantage earlier in the year,” continued Bridges. “They have been very active on this issue.”

“Something has to be done with the way the Obama administration treats America’s seniors,” says Bridges. “Our members and supporters are fed up with getting treated like second class citizens, and the phone calls and emails we are getting have proven that without any doubt.”

Legislative Report from Executive Director Sean Ferritor

I want to thank you for your support and help over the course of 2014. As I have said many times in the past, strength in Washington, D.C., comes in numbers, and without your loyal support we wouldn't be able to fight on your behalf.

The Seniors Coalition played a big part in securing the final 7 cosponsors for Congressman Kevin Brady’s Death Tax Legislation, H.R. 2429. A minimum number of 218 cosponsors is needed to guarantee passage in the House of Representatives, and Congressman Brady’s bill was stuck at 212 for a majority of the summer legislative session. With your support, our legislative team was able to do the necessary research to help Congressman Brady reach out to like-minded conservative Members of Congress and secure the cosponsors he needed for passage.

I was able to speak with Chairman Brady a week before Congress left town for the August recess and asked if Republican Leadership will bring his bill to the House floor for a formal vote and Congressman Brady stated, “I am seeing to it personally.” This is a major victory for seniors all across America, and I have you to thank for it. If it weren't for your constant participation in our petition drives and surveys, as well as voicing your opinions directly to your elected officials, there is no way The Seniors Coalition could be as effective as we have been in 2014.

That’s all for this month. If you have any questions or comments about our legislative or grassroots lobbying efforts, please contact me directly at 202-261-3594.
The Seniors Coalition Launches 2015 National Legislative Survey

The Seniors Coalition recently announced the start of its 2015 National Legislative Survey campaign. This is the most important survey of the year because it asks seniors in all 50 states to tell The Seniors Coalition what issues are most important to them, to more accurately formulate our legislative agenda for the upcoming year.

“We use this survey every year to gauge the temperature of our members and supporters on what issues are the most important to them,” explains President and CEO Dr. Joseph Bridges. “With the current volatile conditions in both the House and Senate, it’s imperative that we hear from our members and supporters so we can represent them as effectively as possible.”

The results of this national survey will be released on October 31, and they will be sent with a press release to Congress, The White House, and top national news outlets. “The most important thing to me is that we represent our members and supporters in an honest and transparent way,” explains Executive Director Sean Ferritor. “I am confident that the results will undeniably prove that The Seniors Coalition represents the best interests of its 2,805,328 supporters nationwide.”

For more information, visit our website at: www.senior.org

Help The Seniors Coalition Protect You and Your Rights!

The Seniors Coalition depends exclusively on voluntary membership dues and contributions from the general public to represent America’s senior citizens in Washington. If you would like to help our efforts, then please clip and return this coupon with any contribution you can afford.

☐ YES! I would like to help The Seniors Coalition keep fighting to protect senior citizens. Enclosed is my contribution of:

☐ $10 ☐ $15 ☐ $25 ☐ $50
☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ Other $_______

Name: __________________________ Address: __________________________

Please make your check payable to “TSC”.

Because we lobby Congress on your behalf, contributions are not tax-deductible.

Please send your contribution along with this form to:

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