

A RESOURCE FOR WISCONSIN SENIORS & THEIR CHILDREN

MEDICARE:

TWO PATHS. TWO FUTURES.

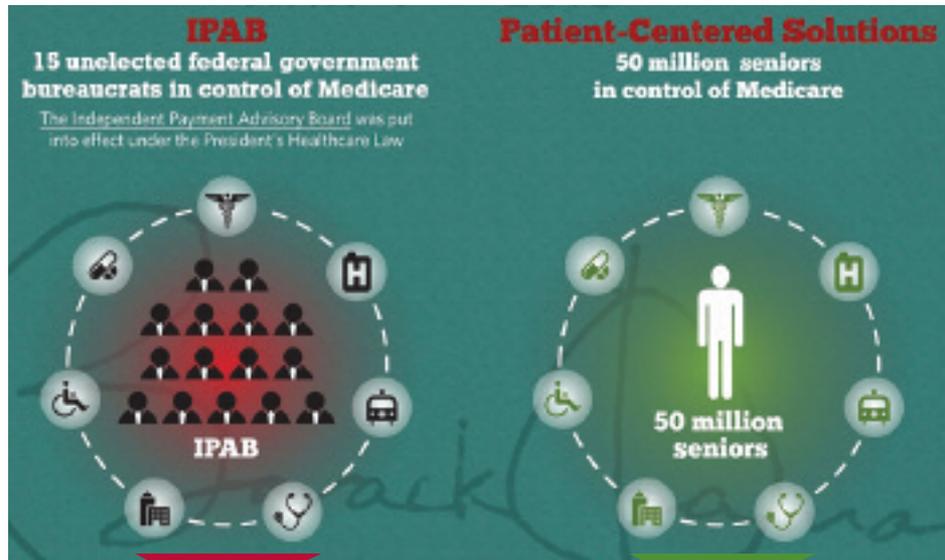
WHOM DO YOU TRUST TO CONTROL YOUR HEALTHCARE?

UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

PUBLIC DOCUMENT
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*This mailing was prepared, published
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PRSR STD



IPAB is in current law and will impact current seniors

IPAB is empowered to cut payments to Medicare providers

IPAB's provider cuts will restrict seniors' access to care

SENIORS WILL BE DENIED CRITICAL CARE AND THAT THE MEDICARE PROMISE WILL BE BROKEN.

NO CHANGES for those 55 or older

Future seniors provided premium support payment and guaranteed coverage options on a Medicare Exchange

Medicare providers, including a traditional fee-for-service Medicare option, compete against each other for the patient's business

MORE CHOICES, HIGHER QUALITY, AND GUARANTEED AFFORDABILITY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

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Congressman Ryan meets with area residents to discuss senior issues.



Saving Medicare for Today's Seniors and Strengthening it for Tomorrow's Retirees



**CONGRESSMAN
PAUL RYAN**



Dear Fellow Wisconsinite,

Our nation faces the most predictable economic crisis in its history. To ignore this is wrong. Unless we act soon, government spending on health and retirement programs will crowd out spending on everything else.

Regrettably, some in Washington have made promises they know cannot be kept and have been untruthful about the magnitude of the fiscal challenges before us.

According to the Medicare Trustees, without substantial changes, the Medicare program will be bankrupt in just 12 years. Thankfully, there is still time for Congress to do the right thing and pass fundamental reform that protects and saves Medicare.

My mom relies on Medicare, so I want the program to be there for her. And, like most seniors, she doesn't want to be a burden to her children or grandchildren.

I will work to preserve the Medicare guarantee of affordable, accessible health care for all seniors—present and future. That is why I authored a budget, The Path to Prosperity, which addresses the looming insolvency of Medicare.

We need members of both parties to work together, so we can end the empty promises of the past and put Medicare on a sustainable path. By acting now, we can protect seniors who currently rely on Medicare from seeing any major disruptions and ensure future generations are able to enjoy the same level of health security.

Please read on to learn more about the plan I have put forward. And, as always, if I can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Paul Ryan
Serving Wisconsin's 1st District

TOLL-FREE CONSTITUENT HOTLINE: 1-888-909-RYAN (7926)

PAUL RYAN'S PLAN to save and strengthen Medicare

Are you 55 or older?

- No changes for those currently receiving Medicare benefits.
- If you are 55 or older and are about to enroll in Medicare, there will be no changes. When you become eligible for Medicare coverage, you will receive the current Medicare benefit plan.
- More assistance will be given to low-income seniors and those with poor health to cover their out-of-pocket costs.



Congressman Ryan meets with area residents at one of his many listening sessions around the district on the subject of the budget, spending reform and preserving Medicare.

Are you 54 or younger?

- Beginning in 2023, Medicare will provide future seniors—those who are under 55 today—with financial assistance to buy health care coverage from a list of Medicare-approved health plans, which will include the traditional Medicare program that seniors have today. Future seniors will choose a plan the same way Members of Congress do.
- Providers will be forced to compete with each other to provide future seniors with the best benefits at the lowest cost. This system of choice and competition among private drug plans has lowered spending by 40 percent on the Medicare Part D prescription drug program, relative to its projected cost.
- An important benefit of this system is that assistance is targeted to each individual Medicare recipient. This way those who need the most help, such as seniors with lower incomes and greater health care needs, receive additional assistance, while high-income seniors receive less. Under no circumstance is anyone denied coverage.
- In contrast, the President's government-controlled approach involves a board of 15 unelected, unaccountable federal government bureaucrats, who he appoints starting this year. The 15-member Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) will decide what procedures will be covered and at what cost, which will lead to restricted access and denied care for seniors.



Rep. Ryan listens to seniors' concerns over their retirement security.

COMPARE

PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE LAW

Has already changed Medicare, by taking over \$500 billion from Medicare to spend on the President's massive health care takeover and empowers the new Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) to circumvent Congress and unilaterally decide what services Medicare will pay for.

Current Medicare beneficiaries can expect to see reduced access to care as payments to providers and hospitals are slashed, a trend that will get worse when IPAB begins deciding what Medicare will and will not pay for.

In 2014, less than two years from now, 15 unelected, unaccountable Presidential appointees to IPAB begin making decisions on what services health care professionals will be able to provide.

Set Medicare on a path to grow at Gross Domestic Product (GDP) plus 1%, which the President recently recommended cutting to GDP plus 0.5% in his latest budget. IPAB's approach is to pay providers less, restricting health care services for patients. History tells us this approach will fail.

PATIENT-CENTERED SOLUTIONS

1

Repeals the President's new health care law and ends the raid on the Medicare trust fund, instead putting those savings back into the program and reducing the deficit.

2

Makes no changes to Medicare benefits for those 55 and older. No cherry-picking of healthy seniors is allowed and denials for pre-existing conditions are prohibited.

3

Beginning in 2023, 50 million seniors each will be able to choose which guaranteed, Medicare-approved plan is best for them. Seniors would be provided a payment that fully covers the premiums of at least two plans in their area, and all plans would be required to provide the same level of benefits as traditional Medicare. That means guaranteed affordability for all seniors.

4

Medicare spending is held in check as plans are forced to compete against each other for seniors' business. It is expected that these kinds of reforms will put Medicare on a sustainable path of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) + 0.5%, the same rate President Obama suggested the program should grow at in his latest budget.

PolitiFact.com

Lie of the Year 2011: Republicans Voted to End Medicare¹

"PolitiFact debunked the Medicare charge in nine separate fact-checks rated False or Pants on Fire, most often in attacks leveled against Republican House members."¹

¹ <http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/article/2011/dec/20/lie-year-democrats-claims-republicans-voted-end-me/>