



June 23, 2022

## **Beware of Good Words to Sell Bad Policy**

Beware of good words used to market bad policy. These words are often found in the titles of legislation. For example, the word “modernization” is popping up in bill titles. Many people may like the sound of modernizing something, but in policy it often means expanding the size of government.

In Congress today there is a bill to modernize immunization infrastructure in every state. This bill enhances the surveillance system. It's making Big Government bigger.

In 2003, the Medicare Modernization Act added the Medicare Advantage plans and the Part D prescription program, the biggest expansion of Medicare in 38 years, making the program much more expensive. Thus, titles may sound good, but only the details count.

**“CMS’ Program History (Medicare & Medicaid),”** CMS, last modified December 1, 2021: <https://go.cms.gov/3rnz9I7>

**“H.R. 550 Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021,”** 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, accessed April 11, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3JC9MIQ>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President and Co-founder  
Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

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*cchfreedom.org / [info@cchfreedom.org](mailto:info@cchfreedom.org) / 651-646-8935*