June 3, 2020

Medicare Opt-Out Update

President Trump’s October 3rd executive order requires the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services to change administrative procedures so that Americans who choose not to enroll in Medicare, or to later opt out of Medicare, do not lose access to their Social Security retirement benefits. Their six-month deadline to do this has come and gone.

Our organization pushed for almost three years to get the executive order, and now we’re pushing to make it real. We are in ongoing contact with the administration. No law mandates enrollment in Medicare and no law says if you don’t enroll you lose your Social Security benefits. But for 27 years, the Social Security Administration has denied benefits to those who refuse to enroll. We must end this before the next election. Stay tuned.