



June 6, 2019

COPY

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the many organizations who co-signed our November 7, 2018 letter, we are writing to update you on the ongoing efforts of our organization and others to bring freedom and choice to senior citizens now effectively trapped in Medicare.

As we wrote in November, current administrative procedures “unlawfully condition seniors’ access to Social Security retirement benefits on Medicare enrollment.” We asked you “to rescind, by executive action” these procedures.

Members of Congress share our concern. On April 4, 2019, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Congressman Gary Palmer (R-AL) introduced **S. 1030** and **H.R. 2108** respectively – the Retirement Freedom Act. According to Senator Cruz:

The Retirement Freedom Act would empower our seniors with the power of choice by providing them with the freedom to choose healthcare that best suits their needs. Right now, seniors across the country are forced to enroll in Medicare Part A or risk losing their Social Security benefits if they take the steps to choose other healthcare options.

In addition, if seniors opt-out of Medicare at a later date, these administrative procedures require them to repay all Medicare and Social Security benefits they have received.

Senate and House cosponsors include Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), Senator Mike Lee (R-UT), Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), Rep. Debbie Lesko (R-AZ), Rep. Ken Buck (R-CO), Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL), Rep. Ralph Norman (R-SC), Rep. Ted Budd (R-NC), Rep. Chip Roy (R-TX) and Rep. Andy Biggs (R-AZ).

Articles referencing this important legislation have been published by *Alabama Political Reporter*, *The Daily Caller*, *FreedomWorks*, *Heritage Foundation*, *OneNewsNow*, and the *Trussville Tribune*.

In addition to supporting S. 1030 and H.R. 2108, our organization has secured additional support for our November 7, 2018 coalition letter. Below find seven additional co-signers who have joined in our request that you rescind, by executive action, the current administrative procedures that unlawfully tie Social Security benefits to Medicare enrollment. With these additions, a total of **44 organizations** across America plus one health policy expert are asking for your help to fix this problem.

Additional signers include:

David Barnes
Policy Manager
Americans for Prosperity

Nicole M. Johnson, MD
President and Cofounder
Physicians for Patients

Grover Norquist
Founder and President
Americans for Tax Reform

Judith Thompson, M.D. Chairwoman
Westby Fisher, M.D. Cofounder
Marion Mass, M.D. Cofounder
Practicing Physicians of America

Dan Caldwell
Executive Director
Concerned Veterans for America

Ted Pittenger
Founder and President
Samaritan Ministries International

Avik S. A. Roy

Mr. President, you can fix this problem.

As we stated in our November 7 letter, “you have the authority to reverse this unfair and misguided policy, which is not a law or a rule. It is an internal, subregulatory instruction, inserted into a program operations manual, without congressional authorization, and without public notice-and-comment rulemaking. Because the change was made without legal authority, it can (and should) be reversed. Because it was instituted administratively, it can be reversed in the same manner.” (see enclosed)

With a simple stroke of your pen, you can bring freedom to millions of Americans, now and into the future, by allowing them to choose the medical coverage that works best for them while improving the financial strength of Medicare for those dependent on it.

Thank you, Mr. President, for your attention to this important matter.

If you or anyone in your administration should have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 651-646-8935.

Sincerely,



Twila Brase, RN, PHN
President and Cofounder
Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Enclosure - CCHF November 7, 2019 Coalition Letter to President Trump