

BAD DEAL FOR SENIORS, BAD DEAL FOR MEDICARE

SWEET DEAL FOR BIG DRUG COMPANIES – UPDATED 11/21/03

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| Keeps Drug Prices High and Drug Company CEOs Smiling |  | Prohibits Medicare from negotiating better prices, and blocks re-importation of drugs from other countries at lower prices. |
| Causes 2.7 Million Seniors to Lose Retiree Drug Coverage |  | Creates incentives for employers to drop retiree coverage. |
| Coerces Seniors Into HMOs and Increases Medicare Premiums |  | Plan purports to be “voluntary” – but forces millions of seniors to pay more for Medicare if they don’t give up their doctor and join an HMO. |
| Forces Up to 6 Million Seniors to Pay More for Medicine |  | Forces up to 6 million low-income seniors who get additional assistance from Medicaid to pay more for their prescriptions; imposes an unfair assets test that disqualifies seniors if they have modest savings. |
| Huge Coverage Gap Leaves Half of Seniors Without Coverage for Part of Every Year |  | Even though the bill requires seniors to pay premiums year-round, its \$2,850 gap in coverage hurts the middle class and leaves many seniors without coverage for part of the year. |
| Takes \$6.7 Billion Needed for Retiree Coverage and Spends it on Tax Breaks for Wealthy |  | Creates new \$6.7 billion health savings accounts for the wealthy that undermines employer coverage and adds to the number of uninsured. |