

FACT SHEET: Medicare Advantage & The Truth About the Obama Administration's Bait-and-Switch Tactics

Despite today's misleading claims by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that Medicare Advantage (MA) "remains strong," the facts tell a different story. Take a look:

- According to the [Congressional Budget Office](#) (<http://cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12033/12-23-selectedhealthcarepublications.pdf>) (CBO) **only 4 percent of the MA cuts from the \$2.6 trillion health spending law have taken effect so far.**
- The Obama Administration **spent \$8.3 billion on an unprecedented and legally dubious**, [according to the Government Accountability Office \(GAO\)](#), (<http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592303.pdf>) demonstration program that conveniently ends in 2013. The [Wall Street Journal](#) called such action (<http://professional.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303592404577361933928310366.html?mg=reno64-wsj>), *"...purely political—to give a program that is popular with seniors a temporary reprieve past Election Day."*
- [Another report from GAO, in April](#) (<http://www.finance.senate.gov/newsroom/ranking/release/?id=8e42f1db-ae71-49b0-b097-c720721f9e80>), **raised serious questions about whether the Administration's demonstration program was constructed for political purposes.** The top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch, called it unacceptable saying, *"The Obama Administration seems to be using a technicality to side step Congress and write itself a blank check to spend more money for political purposes leading into this year's elections."*
- [CBO](#) (<http://cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/43471-hr6079.pdf>) has projected that the **Medicare Advantage program will be cut by \$308 billion over the next 10 years, alone.**
- The Obama Administration's own actuary [predicts](#) (http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research/ActuarialStudies/downloads/PPACA_2010-04-22.pdf) that once the MA cuts are fully phased in, **the number of seniors with a Medicare Advantage plan will be reduced by half.**