



Getting Medicare right

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NEWS

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Statement by Medicare Rights Center President Joe Baker on President Obama's Deficit-Reduction Plan

New York, NY—The president's dedication to a balanced approach to deficit reduction, which includes significant revenue increases through mechanisms such as ending tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans and corporations, helps protect programs like Medicare and Medicaid. While proposals that will increase costs for future Medicare beneficiaries in 2017 and beyond must be further analyzed, proposals that attack the root cause of growing costs in Medicare and Medicaid—growing costs in the health care sector overall—are the right approach to strengthening these programs' finances. For example, establishing rebates under Medicare Part D saves over \$135 billion dollars, ensures Medicare is getting a fair price for drugs, and creates long-term savings without shifting costs to people with Medicare and their families. We look forward to working with policymakers in both the administration and Congress to ensure that Medicare remains an affordable option for the people it serves.

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Medicare Rights Center is a national, nonprofit consumer service organization that works to ensure access to affordable health care for older adults and people with disabilities through counseling and advocacy, educational programs, and public policy initiatives.

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