



Champaign County Health Care Consumers

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Grassroots organizing for health care justice since 1977.

Medicare Task Force Campaign to Fix Part D Sign-On Form

The Medicare Task Force is a group of Medicare beneficiaries and concerned individuals in Champaign County dedicated to making consumer-driven improvements in the Medicare Program. Champaign County Health Care Consumers organizes the Medicare Task Force to give Medicare beneficiaries a voice in the health care system. The Medicare Task Force's Campaign to Fix Part D supports legislative reform of the harmful and costly Medicare prescription drug program, commonly referred to as Part D.

The Medicare Task Force is fighting for A REAL Medicare prescription drug benefit that would:

- **Be administered by Medicare:** With a Medicare administered program, the confusion over plan coverage, formularies, and the extra cost associated with private insurance would be eliminated, saving the government, taxpayers, and Medicare beneficiaries money.
- **Negotiate discounted drug prices:** Part D legislation currently prohibits the government from using the bulk buying power of all Medicare beneficiaries to negotiate for lower drug prices. Allowing Medicare to negotiate for lower drug prices, as the Veteran's Administration has been doing successfully for years, would make prescription drugs affordable.
- **Eliminate the Donut Hole coverage gap:** In the coverage gap built into Part D, Medicare beneficiaries pay their monthly insurance premiums PLUS 100% of their drug costs, resulting in financial hardship and leaving many unable to afford needed medications. In the Donut Hole, Medicare beneficiaries are literally forced to pay for coverage they are not getting! This is not right or fair.
- **Increase consumer protections:** Part D must include the following consumer protections to be a real benefit for Medicare beneficiaries: predictable premium costs, fixed drug costs, coverage of all drugs deemed medically necessary by a patient's physician, and the elimination of exorbitant and unforgiving late fees.

In order for Congress to create a prescription drug program that truly benefits Medicare beneficiaries, they must listen to the voices of consumers rather than those of insurance and drug industry lobbyists!

Add my support to the Campaign to Fix Part D!

I support the goals of the Campaign to Fix Part D and would like to participate in the following ways....

(check all that apply)

- I would like my name added to the petition.
- I would like to be added to the mailing list to receive updates and notices about future meetings.
- I will come to a future meeting.
- I will submit my story to the Part D Storybank.
- I would like to be contacted about others ways that I can help.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please return completed forms to Anne Gargano Ahmed at CCHCC

44 E. Main Street, Suite #208, Champaign, IL 61820

For more information, call (217) 352-6533, ext. 30 or email anne@healthcareconsumers.org