

## Petition to Congress

Take cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid **OFF THE TABLE**.

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Deficit Reduction Commission continues to say “everything has to be on the table” when attempting to balance the budget, yet HR 676, single-payer, Medicare for All has not been considered;

**WHEREAS**, in March 2010 the AFL-CIO Executive Council, representing over 13 million American working families, unanimously adopted a statement urging members of Congress and federal candidates to publicly oppose any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid;

**WHEREAS**, there are popular ways to close any perceived future shortfall without cutting benefits;

**WHEREAS**, Social Security and Medicare are the most successful social programs in the nation’s history, without which the poverty rate for seniors would jump from 10% to 48%;

**WHEREAS**, Medicare has become a national treasure by providing coverage to 45 million older Americans and Americans with disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, Medicare is the second largest source of federal spending for HIV care and treatment;

**WHEREAS**, Medicare continues to be instrumental in reducing disparities in access and coverage for racial and ethnic minority groups;

**WHEREAS**, By 2030, 20 percent of the US population 77 million people will be eligible for Medicare;

**WHEREAS**, Medicare supports US teaching hospitals and provides extra support to hospitals that serve a disproportionate number of low income patients and to rural hospitals;

**WHEREAS**, Turning Medicare in to a truly single payer system will make Medicare sustainable for future generations;

**WHEREAS**, we wish to pass on to our children the rock-solid security that current retirees enjoy, and we wish to pass on to our children a society where we are all in it together and where we keep our promises to senior citizens, people with disabilities, and widows and orphans;

**WHEREAS**, Single-Payer, Medicare for All (HR 676) will achieve \$400 billion in savings on administrative waste and provide healthcare to all;

**THEREFORE**, We the undersigned demand that you sign the attached pledge stating that you oppose, and will work to defeat, ANY cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid now and in the future.

### Pledge

“I pledge to oppose and work to defeat any effort to diminish in any way our social safety net—Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

"I will act to improve the solid foundations of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid by assuring that any additional funds needed shall be gained through placing the burden on the very wealthy whose incomes have skyrocketed as their taxes fell since the 80's.

"I pledge to examine the single-payer, Improved Medicare for All system (as outlined in HR 676), that proposes savings by eliminating waste caused by private insurance companies, and to assess carefully whether such a plan is the humane and effective way to assure care while bringing costs under control."

**Name of Member of Congress or Federal Candidate** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Member of Congress or Federal Candidate** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Petition signatures of State residents of \_\_\_\_\_, Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Name** **Email**

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Address City/ZIP

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Signature

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Petition signatures of State residents of \_\_\_\_\_, Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_.

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