

# PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

To **RECONSIDER** the “Medicare Reform Act of 2003” and **REPLACE** it with real reform legislation that saves Medicare and provides real relief from high drug costs.

**Whereas** Medicare’s promise is to make quality health care available to beneficiaries at an affordable price.

**Whereas** To keep this promise, Medicare should provide a new drug benefit that ends drug company price gouging and makes it affordable to acquire the prescription medications needed to achieve “quality health care.”

**Whereas** The recently passed Medicare Reform Act of 2003 will not make these medications affordable to most beneficiaries but would, in fact, leave most paying dangerously high premiums, deductibles, and drug costs out of pocket.

**Whereas** The recently passed Medicare Reform Act of 2003 contains provisions that will coerce many seniors into insurance coverage that is inadequate and will ultimately lead to the dismantling of traditional Medicare, turning all responsibility back to private insurance companies, restoring the problems and adverse health effects that led to the creation of Medicare in 1965.

**Now Therefore I urge you to RECONSIDER the Medicare Reform Act of 2003 and REPLACE it with legislation that preserves and strengthens traditional Medicare, including provisions for a new and affordable prescription drug benefit that uses the purchasing power of the federal government to control prices and end drug company price gouging; and protections against forcing seniors into profit-first HMO plans against their will.**

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Mail this petition to: California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA), 600 Grand Avenue, #410, Oakland, CA 94610



46 415-550-0828 or 877- 223-6107 (toll free) / [www.californiaalliance.org](http://www.californiaalliance.org)