



# Congressman Ben Cardin

Maryland's Third District



## Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District

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Dear <:firstname:>,

I am extremely pleased by the number of people who have told me that they like my periodic E-News Updates and that it has made them feel connected to what is happening in Congress. For those of you who want to continue to get these E-News Updates between now and Nov. 2, Congressional rules require that you sign up to continue to receive them. To sign up, you can [click here](#) or on the "Join Now" link located on the side. Otherwise you will not receive an E-News Update until after Nov. 2.

I also want to update you on the budget process in Congress. It has not been a very successful year regarding fiscal policy. This spring, Congress failed to pass a budget resolution, which serves as a blueprint for spending priorities. This is of concern because our 2001 budget surplus of \$5.6 trillion has turned into a deficit of \$2.9 trillion.

While Congress needs to pass 13 appropriations bills by Sept. 30, to date only one has been enacted into law. That fact increases the likelihood that Congress will be asked to vote on an omnibus budget package combining most appropriations into one bill before it adjourns in the fall.

An omnibus bill bypasses regular congressional procedures and denies members of Congress the ability to vote on individual key funding issues.

Sincerely,

**Benjamin L. Cardin**  
Member of Congress

**P.S. For those who do not wish to get my E-News Updates, click on the "unsubscribe" button located in the top right-hand corner.**



At a Town Hall Meeting, Congressman Cardin Highlights the Lack of Savings for Seniors in the Third Congressional District in the Medicare Discount Card Program

At the Catherine O'Malley Senior Center in Odenton, the Congressman released a Congressional report analyzing the 33 Medicare-approved discount drug cards available to Medicare beneficiaries in the Third Congressional District. The report found that the "drug cards are failing to provide significant discounts for seniors." For a copy of the report, you can [click here](#).

In January, the Congressman introduced the **Preserving Medicare for All Act, HR 3702**, which would lower prescription drug costs by allowing the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to use the purchasing power of 40 million Medicare beneficiaries to negotiate lower drug costs with pharmaceutical companies. It also would provide a guaranteed, universally available drug benefit option through Medicare, end discrimination against employer-sponsored retiree health plans, repeal the provisions that will threaten traditional Medicare, eliminate excess payments to private health plans, and repeal the expenditures cap that will result in harsh cuts to Medicare providers and patients.

### MEDICARE TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULED

**\* Monday,**  
Aug. 16 at 1 p.m.  
Reisterstown Senior Center  
12035 Reisterstown Rd.

**\* Tuesday,**  
Aug. 17 at 10:30 a.m.  
Allen Senior Center  
1404 S. Charles St, Baltimore  
City

**\* Tuesday,**  
Aug. 17 at 1 p.m.  
The Gardens of Annapolis  
931 Edgewood Rd.

**\* Tuesday,**  
Aug. 17 at 2:15 p.m.  
Bay Woods of Annapolis  
7101 Bay Forest Dr.

**\* Wednesday,**  
Aug. 18 at 2 p.m.  
Weinberg Gardens/Terrace  
1500 Bedford Ave., Pikesville

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\*Please note that your address will not be shared with anyone.

### Previous Survey Question Results

1) Do you support federal legislation that would provide performance bonuses to states that improve their child welfare systems?

Answer	Percent
Yes	71.27%
No	28.73%
Totals	100%

### New Survey Question

Congressman Cardin Wants To Hear From You

**Should Congress cap the amount of federal funds spent on the Medicare program?**

- Yes  
 No

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\*By taking this survey you will subscribe to my E-News Updates.

### Contact Information

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