14 Durkee Street Suite 320 Plattsburgh, NY 12901

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M.C. PRE-SORTED STANDARD

# An Important Update on the Future of Medicare

Representing New York's 23rd Congressional District

This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense.

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## From Congressman Bill Owens

# Medicare is in jeopardy and Bill Owens is fighting to save it.

## "We must protect Medicare for the thousands of upstate New York seniors who depend on it." - Congressman Bill Owens

As your representative in Congress, I am fighting against efforts to weaken Medicare for seniors. While we all agree that it is well past time to cut federal spending and get our fiscal house in order, we must do so in a responsible way that does not cripple Medicare and Social Security, or stifle job creation.

Several proposals in Congress attempt to balance the budget on the backs of seniors. It's fundamentally wrong to make seniors foot the bill for Washington's inability to get our fiscal house in order.

As we continue this important debate, I want to hear from you on how we can best balance the budget, and protect Medicare for current and future seniors. Please contact any of my offices or e-mail me by going to the "Contact Bill" page on my website at owens.house.gov. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Under I Dune

Bill Owens







## Bill Owens is fighting a plan in Congress to dismantle Medicare that will:

End the Medicare guarantee through privatization. Anyone over age 55 would see their health care costs increase dramatically if we don't continue to guarantee coverage. The proposed plan would cost seniors an extra \$6,400 in health care costs,<sup>1</sup> almost doubling what seniors pay out of pocket currently for their health care.

### Make prescription drugs less affordable.

Prescription drug costs would increase significantly as the proposed plan re-opens the "donut hole" for seniors that creates a gap in coverage and increases the cost of needed medications by thousands of dollars. Bill Owens helped to eliminate the Medicare Part D donut hole and will continue to work to lower prescription drug prices for seniors.

Make seniors pay while big oil companies benefit. While ending Medicare as we know it, the plan supported by many in Congress would benefit the big oil companies by keeping their taxpayer-funded subsidies in place, and extending tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires.

Congressman Bill Owens speaks with seniors about Medicare at the St Regis Nursing Home in Massena. NY.