

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President-elect
Washington, DC 20270

November 18, 2008

Dear Mr. Obama,

On behalf of the tens of thousands of seniors enrolled in Wisconsin's SeniorCare prescription drug program, we strongly urge you to renew the waiver for this crucial program, which enables seniors across the state to afford necessary medications.

Wisconsin seniors deserve the best prescription drug program available, and that program is SeniorCare. Time and again, we have seen why SeniorCare is an invaluable asset to Medicare beneficiaries in our state.

SeniorCare makes fiscal sense. This program saves the federal government money, and it saves money for seniors. The average annual federal subsidy for a SeniorCare waiver participant is \$588, nearly a third of the \$1,690 the federal government spends to subsidize a Part D participant. As a result, this program will save taxpayers \$31 million while providing primary prescription drug coverage for tens of thousands of seniors.

Furthermore, Wisconsin seniors prefer SeniorCare – and for good reason. The program provides almost 91,000 Wisconsin seniors with access to comprehensive prescription drug coverage. And because SeniorCare is able to negotiate better drug prices, an AARP study showed that 94% of SeniorCare participants are better off under SeniorCare than they would be under Medicare Part D.

Extending this program is the right thing to do for the state of Wisconsin, Wisconsin seniors, and American taxpayers. We were happy to hear during your campaign that you share our commitment to this valuable program, and look forward to working with you to enact a permanent extension of SeniorCare.

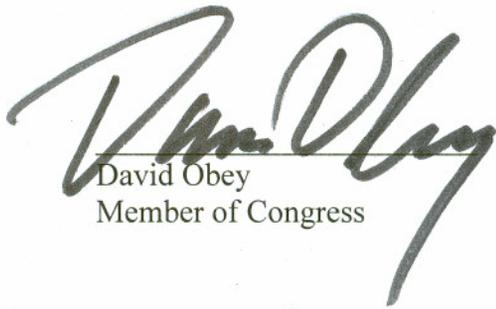
Respectfully,



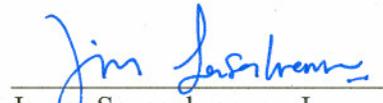
Russell D. Feingold
United States Senate



Herb Kohl
United States Senate



David Obey
Member of Congress



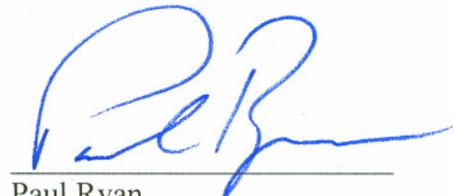
James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



Tom Petri
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Paul Ryan
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Steve Kagen, M.D.
Member of Congress