## **COMy position is clear:**

Medicare is a vital program for senior citizens on a fixed income struggling to make ends meet, and I will fight every day to preserve and strengthen it."



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# JON RUNYAN



"LIKE" me on facebook at Congressman Jon Runyan FOLLOW me on twitter @RepJonRunyan VISIT my web site @ www.runyan.house.gov

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> The respected, non-partisan Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania says that Democrats are making **"false and misleading claims"** about Medicare.

(Source: 6/17/11, FactCheck.org, "DCCC Dials Wrong Number")

Read inside and get the truth straight from Congressman Jon Runyan.



Congressman Runyan speaking with local seniors from the Deceased Veterans Memorial Association at the Ocean County Library.

"In order to help set the record straight about Medicare, I have produced this Q&A based on questions from constituents like you. I hope it's helpful and informative. Please don't hesitate to contact my office at any time if you need more information. Thank you." - CONGRESSMAN JON RUNYAN

### An Honest Q&A with Congressman Jon Runyan about Medicare

#### **Constituent Question:**

What are your thoughts on the importance of Medicare to senior citizens?

#### Congressman Runyan's Answer:

Medicare is a vital program and an important safety net for seniors on a fixed income. It must be protected for current seniors and preserved for future generations of seniors.

#### **Constituent Question:**

Does the House Republican reform plan really "end Medicare as we know it?"

#### Congressman Runyan's Answer:

No. In fact, under our plan, if you are age 55 or older Medicare would not change one bit. You would receive the same benefits and coverage you do today. Anyone who tells you different is not telling you the truth.

#### Constituent Question: What would happen to Medicare for people under the age of 55?

#### Congressman Runyan's Answer:

Under our plan, Medicare would remain a guaranteed government benefit and spending would increase every year. Future seniors would be empowered to choose a healthcare plan that best suits their individual needs, similar to the popular Medicare Part D program. Low-income seniors and those with greater health risks would receive additional help.

#### **Constituent Question:**

Why do we have to reform Medicare at all? Why not just leave it alone?

#### Congressman Runyan's Answer:

Doing nothing is not an option. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office projects that Medicare will go bankrupt in less than 10 years if we don't act now to preserve it. If we keep going down this path, Medicare will go bankrupt and access to affordable care for seniors living on a fixed income will be lost. I refuse to stand by and let that happen.

#### Constituent Question: What is the alternative plan being put forth by Democrats?

#### Congressman Runyan's Answer:

Last year, a Democrat led Congress cut \$500 billion from Medicare by passing controversial new healthcare reform, signed into law by the President. Their approach this year is to do nothing and risk Medicare's future. That lack of action could force current seniors to endure an <u>immediate</u> 17% cut in benefits or a 24% pay roll tax increase to save the system.

(SOURCE: 2011 Annual Report of the Boards of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds)