

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 12, 2015

Andy Slavitt  
Acting Administrator  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
201 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 445-G  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Acting Administrator Slavitt:

We are writing to express our serious concerns about the preliminary decisions CMS recently announced about Medicare Advantage (MA) payment changes for 2016 that will impact the health care choices and benefits of more than 16 million seniors and individuals with disabilities.

The "Advance Notice" released on February 20 proposes additional cuts to 2016 payment rates on top of the nearly 10 percent cut that MA enrollees already have shouldered over the last two years. The newly proposed cuts could represent a significant threat to the health and financial security of seniors in our congressional districts who rely on their MA plans to meet their health care needs.

Approximately 550,000 MA enrollees lost their plans at the beginning of 2014, and another 570,000 lost their plans at the beginning of 2015. Beneficiaries in all 50 states have been impacted by these disruptions. We strongly believe that cuts to MA benefits would be deeply unfair to millions of our constituents who are counting on Congress and the Administration to stabilize this program.


Nationwide, more than 30 percent of Medicare beneficiaries have chosen to enroll in MA plans. These plans are popular with enrollees because of an emphasis on improving health outcomes through innovative programs that emphasize preventive care, offer care coordination and disease management to help manage chronic conditions, and promptly treat medical conditions before they advance to a more serious stage. We are concerned that further cuts to the MA program could undermine a coverage option that is critical to our nation's Medicare beneficiaries, particularly those who have multiple chronic conditions and those with low incomes.

As CMS works to finalize 2016 payment rates, we strongly urge you to protect Medicare beneficiaries by reversing the proposed payment cuts and providing a stable policy environment for the MA program.

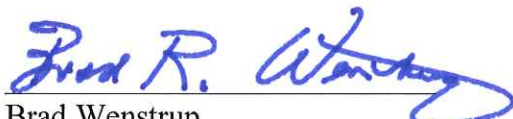
Sincerely,

  
Brett Guthrie

  
Patrick E. Murphy

  
Mike Kelly


  
Mario Diaz-Balart


  
Brad Wenstrup


  
Doug LaMalfa

  
John Shimkus

  
Renee Ellmers

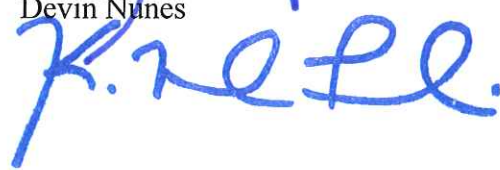
  
Larry Bucshon

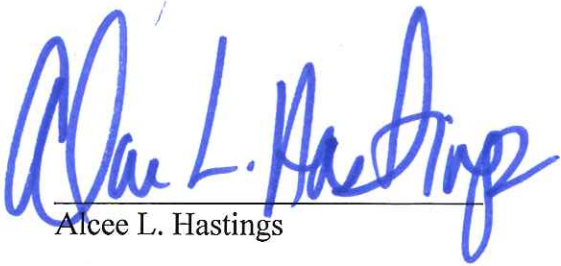
  
Leonard Lance

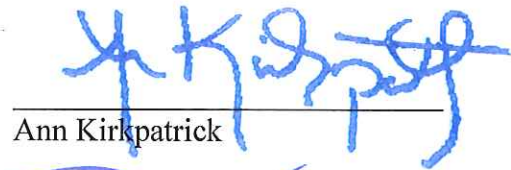
  
Tim Murphy

  
Devin Nunes

  
Corrine Brown

  
Mark Takai

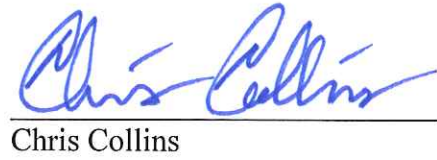
  
Alice L. Hastings

  
Ann Kirkpatrick

  
Bill Johnson

  
Richard Hanna

  
H. Morgan Griffith

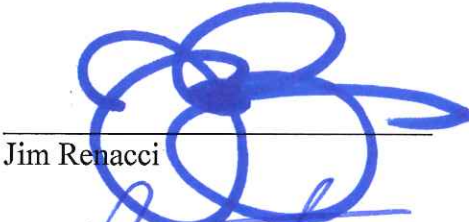
  
Chris Collins

  
Ann McLane Kuster

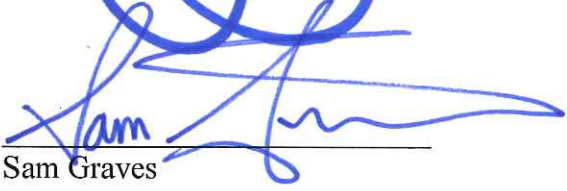
  
Bill Flores

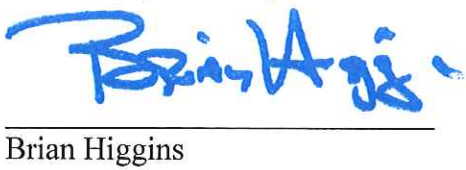
  
David Scott

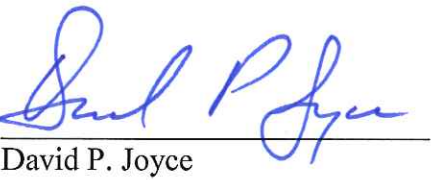
  
Marsha Blackburn

  
Jim Renacci


  
Peter King

  
Sam Graves

  
Brian Higgins

  
David P. Joyce

  
Erik Paulsen

  
Keith Rothfus

  
Bill Shuster

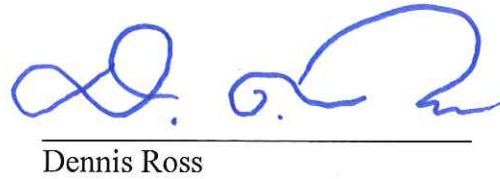
  
Phil Roe

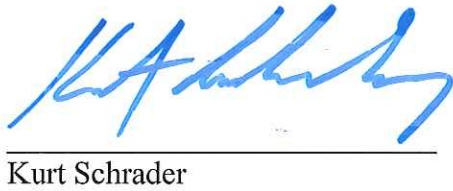
  
Lynn Westmoreland

  
Andy Barr

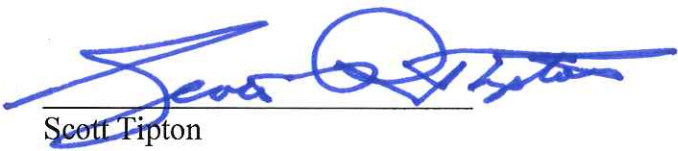
  
Susan Brooks

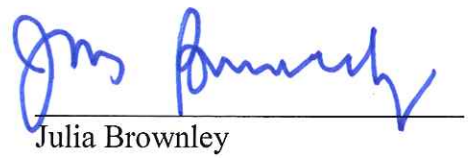
  
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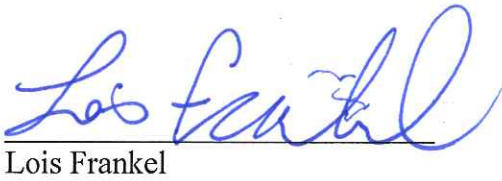
  
Dennis Ross

  
Kurt Schrader

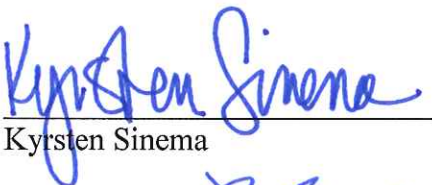
  
Rick Allen

  
Scott Tipton

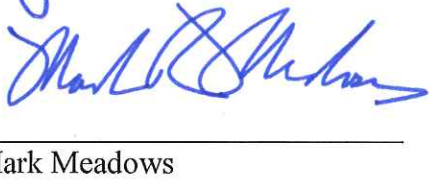
  
Julia Brownley

  
Lois Frankel

  
Pedro Pierluisi

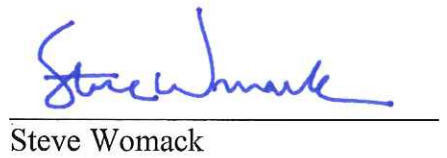
  
Kyrsten Sinema

  
Blaine Luetkemeyer

  
Mark Meadows

  
Chris Gibson

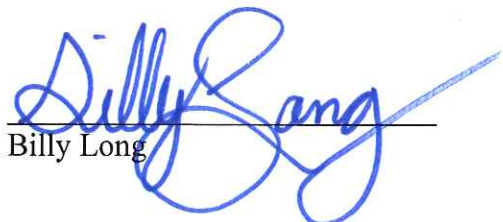
  
Ami Bera, M.D.

  
Steve Womack

  
Todd Young

  
Gus Bilirakis

  
George Holding

  
Billy Long

David McKinley  
David McKinley

Charles Boustany  
Charles Boustany

Scott Perry  
Scott Perry

Robert Latta  
Robert Latta

Michael Burgess, M.D.  
Michael Burgess, M.D.

Ted Yoho  
Ted Yoho

Richard Nugent  
Richard Nugent

Gregg Harper  
Gregg Harper

Tony Cardenas  
Tony Cardenas

Jeff Denham  
Jeff Denham

Joe Pitts  
Joe Pitts

John Katko  
John Katko

Ron DeSantis  
Ron DeSantis

Cheri Bustos  
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Juan Vargas  
Juan Vargas

Denny Heck  
Denny Heck

David Jolly  
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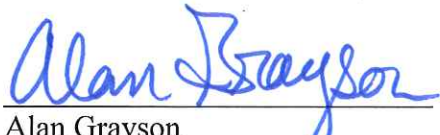
Scott Peters  
Scott Peters

Gwen Graham  
Gwen Graham


Adam Kinzinger  
Adam Kinzinger

  
Andy Harris, M.D.

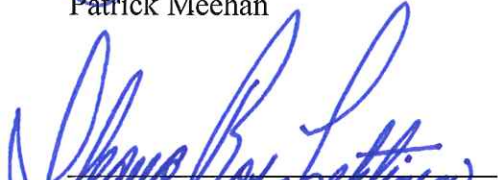
  
Trent Franks

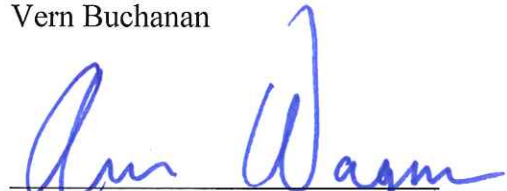
  
Alan Grayson

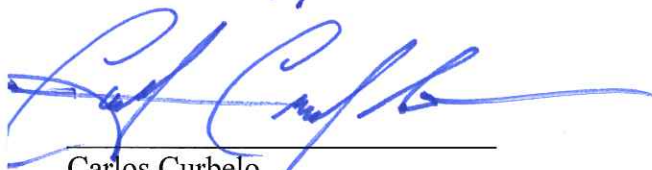
  
Lou Barletta

  
Patrick Meehan

  
Vern Buchanan

  
Heena Ros-Lentinen

  
Ann Wagner

  
Carlos Curbelo

  
Doug Lamborn

  
Pete Olson


  
Ed Whitfield

  
Eric Swalwell


  
Bradley Byrne

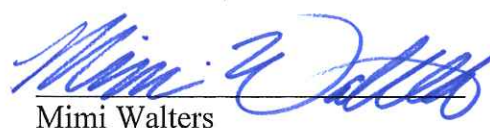
  
Jason Smith

  
Robert Pittenger

  
Bob Gibbs

  
Pat Tiberi

  
Kevin Cramer

  
Mimi Walters

Clw Dent

Charlie Dent

Alan Lowenthal

Alan Lowenthal

Daniel Webster

Daniel Webster

Mike Bost

Mike Bost

J. Randy Forbes

J. Randy Forbes

Bobby Rush

Bobby Rush

Brian Babin

Brian Babin

Jeb Hensarling

Jeb Hensarling

Ron Kind

Ron Kind

John Kline

John Kline

Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller

Mark Amodei

Mark Amodei

Matthew Cartwright

Matthew Cartwright

Kay Granger

Kay Granger

Sean Duffy

Sean Duffy

Barbara Comstock

Barbara Comstock

Steve Chabot

Steve Chabot

Sean Patrick Maloney

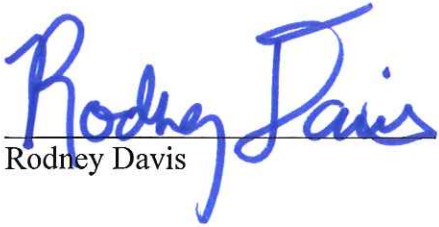
Sean Patrick Maloney

Joe Heck

Joe Heck, D.O.

Jaime Herrera Beutler

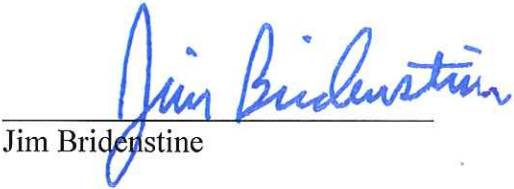
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Rodney Davis

  
Suzan DelBene

  
Jackie Walorski

  
Sam Johnson

  
Jim Bridenstine

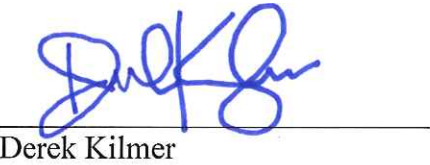
  
Kristi Noem

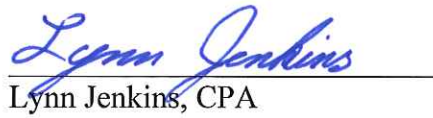
  
Luke Messer

  
Ryan Costello

  
Pete Aguilar

  
Reid Ribble

  
Derek Kilmer

  
Lynn Jenkins, CPA

  
Robert J. Dold

  
Tom MacArthur

  
Collin Peterson

  
Kenny Marchant

  
Michael R. Turner

  
Linda Sánchez

  
Steve Israel

  
Keith Ellison



Betty McCollum

Betty McCollum

Paul A. Gosar

Paul Gosar

Rob Woodall

Rob Woodall

Daniel Kildee

Dan Kildee

Scott DesJarlais

Scott DesJarlais

Robert Hurt

Robert Hurt

Michael McCaul

Michael McCaul

Ryan Zinke

Ryan Zinke

Elizabeth H. Esty

Elizabeth Esty

Blake Farenthold

Blake Farenthold

Dan Benishek

Dan Benishek

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Evan Jenkins

Evan Jenkins

Stephen Fincher

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Bruce Poliquin

Bruce Poliquin

Jody Hice

Jody Hice

Pete Sessions

Pete Sessions

Elise M. Stefanik

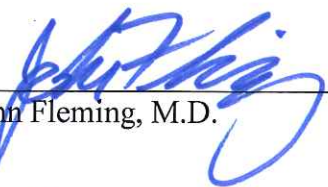
Elise Stefanik

Mac Thornberry

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Diane Black


Diane Black

  
John Fleming, M.D.

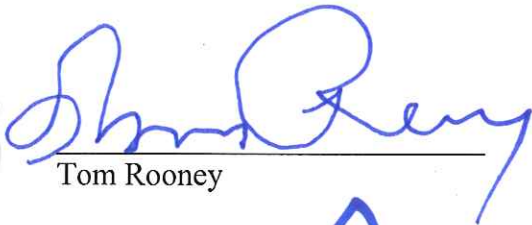
  
Steve Stivers

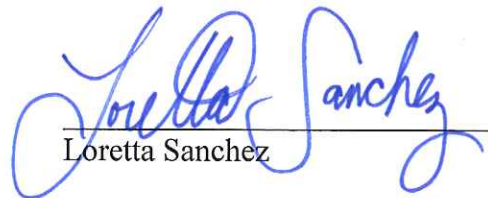
  
Marlin Stutzman


  
Henry Cuellar

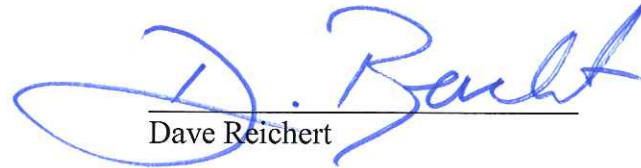
  
Frederica Wilson

  
Matt Salmon

  
Tom Rooney

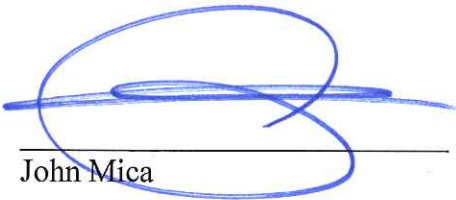
  
Loretta Sanchez


  
Bill Posey

  
Dave Reichert

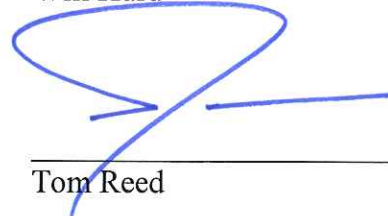
  
French Hill

  
Ralph Abraham

  
John Mica

  
Will Hurd

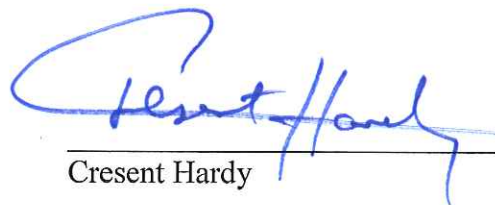
  
Kathleen M. Rice

  
Tom Reed

  
Brad Ashford

  
Chuck Fleischmann

  
Curt Clawson

  
Crescent Hardy

Joe Wilson

Joe Wilson

Chris Smith

Chris Smith

John Garamendi

John Garamendi

John J. Duncan, Jr.

John J. Duncan, Jr.

John Carter

John Carter

Gregory Meeks

Gregory Meeks

Gerald E. Connolly

Gerald E. Connolly

Chaka Fattah

Chaka Fattah

Chris Stewart

Chris Stewart

Suzanne Bonamici

Suzanne Bonamici

Chellie Pingree

Chellie Pingree

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Tim Walberg

Tim Walberg

Earl Blumenauer

Earl Blumenauer

Adam Smith

Adam Smith

Candice S. Miller

Candice Miller

Paul Cook

Paul Cook

Harold Rogers

Harold Rogers

Mike Fitzpatrick

Mike Fitzpatrick

Janice Hahn

Janice Hahn

*Mike Rogers*

Mike Rogers

*David Rouzer*

David Rouzer

*Kevin Yoder*

Kevin Yoder

*Mike Simpson*

Mike Simpson

*Greg Walden*

Greg Walden

*Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter*

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

*Bruce Westerman*

Bruce Westerman

*Robert Brady*

Robert Brady

*Duncan Hunter*

Duncan Hunter

*Don Young*

Don Young

*Mike Pompeo*

Mike Pompeo

*Gwen S. Moore*

Gwen S. Moore

*Randy Hultgren*

Randy Hultgren

*Dave Trott*

Dave Trott

*Donald Norcross*

Donald Norcross

*John Culberson*

John Culberson

*Glenn Grothman*

Glenn Grothman

*Martha McSally*

Martha McSally

*Mark Pocan*

Mark Pocan

*John Ratcliffe*

John Ratcliffe

Yvette D. Clarke

Yvette Clarke

Ed Royce

Ed Royce

Bill Huizenga

Bill Huizenga

Tom Marino

Tom Marino

Mike Coffman

Mike Coffman

John Moolenaar

John Moolenaar

Doug Collins

Doug Collins

Jim Costa

Jim Costa

Jeff Duncan

Jeff Duncan

Adrian Smith

Adrian Smith

Frank Guinta

Frank Guinta

Darrell Issa

Darrell Issa

Michael Doyle

Michael Doyle

David Valadao

David Valadao

Rick Crawford

Rick Crawford

Aaron Schock

Aaron Schock

Terri Sewell

Terri Sewell

Mike Bishop

Mike Bishop

Brendan Boyle

Brendan Boyle

Rodney Blum

Rodney Blum

*Dave Loeb sack*

Dave Loeb sack

*Mike Quigley*

Mike Quigley

*Ben Ray Lujan*

Ben Ray Lujan

*Cedric Richmond*

Cedric Richmond

*Garret Graves*

Garret Graves