



Michigan Osteopathic Association

Dear Michigan Delegation,

In the midst of an ongoing pandemic, it is imperative that we provide adequate healthcare to our most vulnerable populations. There are thousands of people battling chronic illness throughout Michigan, many of whom rely on Medicare to access healthcare and prescription medications. Unfortunately, their access to medications is being threatened by proposed changes to the Medicare Part D program announced in January.

One change was proposed by the Trump administration and could significantly reduce access to medications. Proposed changes to the Part D Payment Modernization Model by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) take aim at the program's six protected drug classes and two drugs per class requirement. By stripping the protections for these drugs, patients will no longer have access to the prescription drugs they need. Additionally, this proposal does nothing to lower out-of-pocket costs. These critical prescriptions help individuals struggling with severe mental illness, cancer, organ transplant rejection and HIV. Individuals with chronic or pre-existing conditions will be forced to use the one drug covered that may not fully address their needs.

If access to life-saving treatments is hindered by unnecessary and harmful changes to Medicare, many Michiganders could face a significant financial burden or worsened health outcomes. The toll of the loss of benefits will be felt by Michigan residents for years to come.

We ask you to urge the Biden administration to withdraw the Part D Payment Modernization Model to include drugs of the six protected classes and implement the rebate rule.

Sincerely,

MichBio
American Arab Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Osteopathic Association
KPEP
Michigan Lupus Foundation
Dr. Farhan Bhatti
HOPE Network