

EMPLOYERS' COALITION ON MEDICARE

July 27, 2007

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE:

Earlier this year, our organizations wrote to urge that you oppose any actions that would reduce funding for Medicare Advantage plans or could cripple the Medicare Advantage program before it even has a chance to establish the solid foundation necessary to continue expanding beneficiary choices in future years. Today, we write to you again to underscore and reiterate our concerns.

Employers need solid health plan choices for their retirees who are eligible for Medicare. We continue to believe that it is very important to maintain funding for Medicare Advantage plans so that we do not restrict the health plan options available to retirees and employers. To achieve this, there must be confidence in the long term stability of the federal government's role in maintaining adequate funding for the Medicare Advantage program in order to ensure that seniors will be able to choose from the range health plan choices they deserve.

As organizations representing the full range of America's large and small employers who provide health care coverage for more than 100 million Americans, we again urge that you reject any proposal that would weaken the Medicare Advantage program or lead to a restriction of health plan options for retirees and employers. We welcome the opportunity to work with you on this important issue to meet the diverse health care needs of all Medicare beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

Employers' Coalition on Medicare
American Benefits Council
Business Roundtable
Corporate Health Care Coalition
ERISA Industry Committee
HR Policy Association
National Association of Manufacturers
National Business Group on Health
National Retail Federation
U.S. Chamber of Commerce