



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

October 12, 2013

Dear Administrator Tavenner:

We are concerned that Medicare's open enrollment could be impacted due to employee furloughs.

As you know, open enrollment is an important time for seniors. The ability to switch Medicare Advantage plans or move between Medicare Advantage and traditional Medicare gives seniors flexibility and confidence that Medicare is working for them. We fear that seniors are approaching this year's Medicare open enrollment with additional confusion because of the national attention on the unrelated Affordable Care Act open enrollment. The government shutdown will only exacerbate that confusion. If questions about Medicare benefit options go unanswered, the resulting confusion could leave beneficiaries as ripe targets for fraud.

To protect seniors and the functional integrity of the Medicare program, we respectfully urge you to do everything in your power to mitigate the impact of the government shutdown during the open enrollment period. We would ask that you consider ways to protect seniors such as extension of the open enrollment period, or initiation of a special enrollment period once the government reopens. In the midst of this government shutdown we would like to work with you to ensure that our seniors will experience a seamless open enrollment period. In our view, servicing earned Medicare benefits is an essential duty to protect the health, safety, and lives of American seniors.

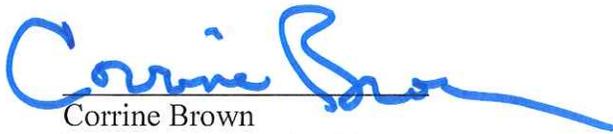
Sincerely,

Patrick E. Murphy
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Illeana Ros-Lehtinen
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Ted Deutch
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Trey Radel
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



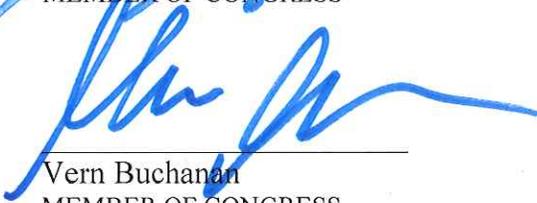
Corrine Brown
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



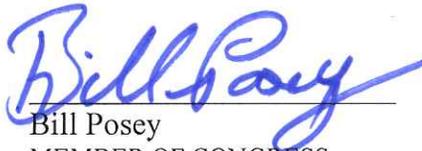
John L. Mica
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Mario Diaz-Balart
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Vern Buchanan
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



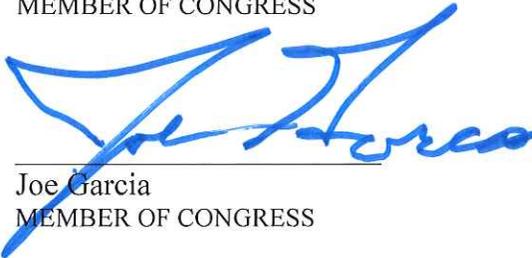
Bill Posey
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Rich Nugent
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



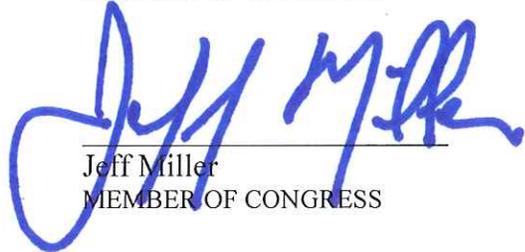
Frederica S. Wilson
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Joe Garcia
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Alcee L. Hastings
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



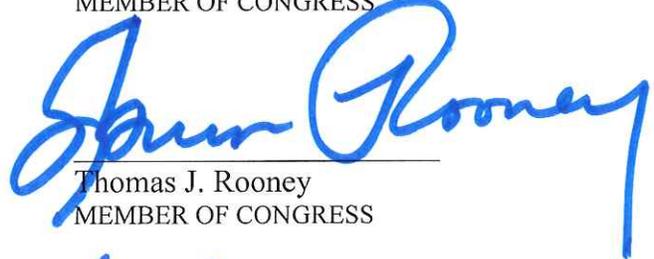
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