

April 2, 2014

Mr. Frank Little
Medicare Beneficiary
2837 Rose Garden Way
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Dear Mr. Little:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Health on Thursday, March 13, 2014, to testify at the hearing entitled “Keeping the Promise: Allowing Seniors to Keep Their Medicare Advantage Plans If They Like Them.”

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. Your responses should be mailed to Jessica Wilkerson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to jessica.wilkerson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Pitts
Chairman
Subcommittee on Health

cc: Frank Pallone, Jr, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health

Attachment

Attachment —Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts

1. You've had 3 different MA plans. Do you feel like you have more choices or fewer choices today than 5 years ago when you enrolled?
2. Under traditional Medicare without a supplemental policy, seniors could face financial ruin due to the unpredictable cost-sharing from unexpected illness or hospitalization. Yet Medicare Advantage plans offer seniors catastrophic protection. Do you feel like your MA plan gives you peace of mind at a low cost?
3. What would have happened to you if you'd had a health episode and weren't on an MA plan?
4. How would you feel/what would you do if you lost the MA plan you have today?
5. Before Obamacare passed, President Obama told us that Americans who liked the health care plan they had would be able to keep it. However, the Medicare Actuary in 2010 projected that by 2017, enrollment in MA would be about HALF of what it would otherwise be. And we are seeing those cuts take place. So, many seniors who like their MA plan might not be able to keep it. Do you feel like the President kept his word on this issue?
6. According to the Congressional Budget Office, Obamacare cut more than \$300 B from the MA program to spend on new government programs not for seniors. Do you think that is fair? How does that make you feel? Do you feel like lawmakers who supported Obamacare are keeping their promise to protect our nation's seniors if they let these cuts go through?
7. Can you describe what your plan has done for you recently that you think may prevented a hospitalization or from returning to the hospital?