

As employer-sponsored retiree health coverage in the United States rapidly erodes and Medicare HMO's pull out of many markets and lower existing drug benefits, it is time to recognize that the private sector will never be able to guarantee drug coverage for all seniors. In

contrast, adding an outpatient drug benefit to Medicare would do exactly that.

If so many other industrialized nations can provide prescription drug coverage for their senior citizens, why can't we?

I urge you to support legislation to add a prescription drug benefit to Medicare. If we do

not, we will do great harm to millions of seniors who lack any drug insurance to pay for medications their doctors prescribe.

Contrary to what the pharmaceutical industry would have you believe, the debate is not about price controls. The debate is about coverage.

GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

		Country—							
		United States	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	Japan	Netherlands	France	Sweden
National Policy.	No outpatient prescription drug coverage for seniors under Medicare. Medicaid provides prescription drug coverage for some low-income seniors; policies vary by state.	All provinces provide prescription drug plans for senior citizens, with copayments that vary by province.	Prescription drug coverage with co-payments; exemptions from some copayments for people over age 60.	Copayments range from \$5 to \$7, depending on the prescription. Patients also pay the difference between government reimbursed price and the market price (typically the difference between generic and name brand.	Free medical care for all individuals over age 70 (over 65, if bedridden), with nominal co-payments. Free care includes "supply of medications" Additional nominal co-payment for individuals taking more than one, two to three, or six or more prescription drugs per day.	Patient cost sharing of 20 percent, up to a maximum level. In addition, patients pay difference between maximum reimbursed price and the market price, similar to Germany.	"Essential drugs" (e.g., cancer treatment) require no cost sharing; "Normal prescriptions" (e.g., antibiotics) require 30% cost sharing; "comfort" drugs (e.g., tranquilizers) require 60% cost sharing. Elderly individuals with a need for multiple drugs are reimbursed for all costs.	No charge for pharmaceuticals for treatment of chronic diseases. \$10 co-payment for all other prescription drugs. Annual copayments capped at \$200, for combination of prescription drugs, physician consultations, physical therapy, and hospital inpatient care	
Does this coverage exist for non-elderly?.	No. Low-income individuals may be covered under Medicaid. Varies by state.	No. Extent of coverage varies by province.	Yes. However, coverage for elderly is more generous.	Yes .....	Yes. However, coverage for elderly is more generous.	Yes .....	Yes. However, coverage for elderly needing multiple drugs is more generous.	Yes	

Source: The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. "Ensuring Cost-Effective Access to Innovative Pharmaceuticals: Do market Interventions Work?" April 1999. Graig, Laurene A. Health of Nations: An International Perspective of U.S. Health Care Reform. (Congressional Quarterly Inc. Washington, DC: 1999). Lassey, Marie L., Lassey, William, R., and Martin J. Jinks. Health Care Systems Around the World: Characteristics, Issues, Reforms. (Prentice Hall, New Jersey: 1997).

RECOGNIZING STANLEY M. CHESLEY UPON HIS RECEIVING THE SHALOM PEACE AWARD

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stanley M. Chesley, a distinguished constituent, who will receive the prestigious Shalom Peace Award from the Jewish National Fund on November 6, 1999.

The Shalom Peace Award is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to Israel and peace. It has been presented to an individual only eight times in the 99 year history of the Jewish National Fund. In receiving the award, Mr. Chesley joins other esteemed recipients, including Elie Weisel, Lady Margaret Thatcher, General Colin Powell, and Jihan Sadat.

Stan Chesley was born on March 26, 1936 in Cincinnati. He received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati in 1958 and his LL.B. in 1960. He was admitted to the bar in 1960, and joined the law firm that is now known as Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley, L.P.A. Mr. Chesley currently serves as President of the firm. He is a member of the bars of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Supreme Court of Ohio, and the United States District Court of Appeals for the Second, Fourth and Sixth Circuits. For eight years, he served on the Supreme Court of Ohio's Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline, and was Vice Chair for two years. He has been a lecturer and author for the American Bar Association and many other legal organizations.

While Stan Chesley is an accomplished and successful attorney, he also is well known for his dedicated public service. In 1995, he was appointed to the United States Holocaust Museum Council by President Clinton. He also serves on the National Board of Governors of

Hebrew Union College, the National Executive Committee of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the National Board of Directors of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, the Board of Trustees of the University of Cincinnati and Board of Directors of the University of Cincinnati Foundation. He generously gives of his time to these and many other worthwhile organizations and causes in Greater Cincinnati.

Cincinnati salutes Stan Chesley as he receives this well deserved recognition.

WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN TO THE WOMEN, SPIRITUAL MIDWIVES OF THE MILLENNIUM CONFERENCE

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, this weekend women from across the world will gather in Windsor, Ontario to celebrate 300 years of international diversity at the "Women, Spiritual Midwives of the Millennium" Conference.

This weekend's conference will emphasize the important role women play in breaking down the walls of racism and will celebrate the differences that make each woman unique. I would like to extend my enthusiastic support to the conference participants as they unite women from all corners of the world with their healing message of love and understanding.

Leading the conference will be two dynamic women whose strong spirituality has defined their careers, Marianne Williamson and Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly.

Marianne Williamson has earned international acclaim for her talents as an author and lecturer. Her words have motivated and inspired. Ms. Williamson co-founded The Renaissance Alliance, a non-profit organization applying spiritual principles to social and polit-

ical issues, and is committed to causes benefiting people with life-threatening illness. In addition to her other accomplishments, Marianne Williamson is the spiritual leader of the Church of Today, the Unity Church of Warren, Michigan. Ms. Williamson is a role model for young women everywhere and an extraordinary example of the selflessness of the human spirit.

Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly's life has been defined by her commitment to diversity and spirituality. She and her husband, Robert E. Kennerly, founded the SpiritLove Ministries in Detroit. Through both words and song, Reverend Barnes-Kennerly has moved people of all colors and creeds to love and heal.

Today I recognize the efforts of Marianne Williamson and the Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly and encourage them to continue to preach their messages of unity and strength.

TRIBUTE TO THE ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago, Bishop Apollinaris William Baumgartner laid the groundwork for the establishment of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam. With the assistance of my aunt, Sister Mary Inez Underwood, the Academy first opened its doors on September 8, 1949—the first class consisting of 36 freshmen who received classroom instruction from within a section of the Agana Cathedral Activities Hall. Within that hall, the students developed skills in the sciences, mathematics, language and fine arts under the able direction of the Sisters of Mercy.

Under Monsignor Felixberto Camacho Flores, the future Archbishop of Agana, construction of a permanent structure for the school