

Representative's Name _____ Party _____

District # _____ District County _____

DC Office # _____ District Off # _____

GUIDE FOR MEDICARE CALLS. TAKE NOTES ON THE REPRESENTATIVE'S POSITIONS AND STATEMENTS.

The PSC Social Safety Net Working Group will be visiting and calling Metropolitan NY Representatives but will start its campaign with calls regarding proposals that will change and/or cut Medicare benefits. The calls will be to your Congressperson but you will most likely be passed on to a staff member who can speak on her/his behalf; that is someone who knows the Representative's positions on Medicare or any proposed changes to Medicare.

Hello, This is _____, a member of NYSUT and the Professional Staff Congress \ PSC, the union that represents 27,000 City University faculty and staff. We are asking our Representatives to keep America covered; to preserve and expand all the public programs that successfully protect tens of millions of Americans with health care, retirement and disability insurance. Today, I would like to speak with Rep. _____ about my union's strong position on Medicare. Is she (or he) available?

IF SOMEONE IS AVAILABLE.

Hi, I'm _____ from the PSC, the union of CUNY's faculty and staff. Medicare is far more efficient, cost effective and affordable than any private insurance alternative and is extremely popular. Does Rep. _____ strongly oppose any policy that would convert Medicare to a voucher or premium support program forcing people to search for their own health insurance?

IF THEY OPPOSE CONVERSION, SAY THANK YOU AND GO ON TO OTHER ASPECTS OF PROTECTING MEDICARE.)

We are also very concerned about the cost of prescription drugs within Medicare. Will the Representative support changes to allow Medicare to negotiate drug costs as the VA has done?

AGAIN, SEE IF YOU GET A COMMITMENT. IF YES, THANK YOU, IF NO, WHY NOT?

Also, how will the Representative insure that the repeal of the ACA does not bring back the donut hole, making lifesaving prescriptions unaffordable for thousands of seniors and the disabled?

AGAIN IF THE STAFF MEMBER IS UNCERTAIN OR EVASIVE, AS SOME OF THE PROPOSALS THEMSELVES MAY BE FLUID , OR STILL BEING DEBATED, ASK FOR FOLLOW UP INFORMATION.

On behalf of our union will you let me know when the debate and vote on this issue will be held?

IF THEY SAY THE REP. SUPPORTS VOUCHERS, LET THEM KNOW THAT THE UNION BELIEVES THIS WILL ESSENTIALLY DESTROY MEDICARE.

The available research indicates that vouchers will end Medicare as we know it hurting millions of Americans, including his\her constituents and cost much much more.. If this is Representative _____'s position, the union must inform its members and others in our coalition in your district.

IF STAFF IS NONCOMMITTAL, OR DOSEN'T KNOW, ASK WHEN CAN S\HE GET BACK TO YOU WITH AN ANSWER REGARDING THE REPRESENTATIVE.'S POSITION.

When will you or the Congressperson be available to answer these questions I have about the union's Medicare concerns?

IF NO ONE IS AVAILABLE

When will someone be able to talk with me about The Congressperson's Medicare positions?

THE OFFICE MAY SAY SOMEONE WILL CALL YOU BACK OR SAY WHEN THE APPROPRIATE STAFF PERSON WILL BE IN THE OFFICE. IF SO, GET A NAME. CALL BACK IF NO ONE HAS RETURNED YOUR CALL WITHIN A FEW DAYS OR WHEN THE OFFICE SUGGESTED YOU MIGHT REACH THE DESIGNATED STAFF MEMBER. BE PERSISTENT AND CALL AGAIN IF YOU NEED TO.

FOR ALL CALLS

We are urging Rep. _____ to keep America covered; to preserve and expand all the public programs that successfully protect tens of millions of Americans with health care, retirement and disability insurance Thank you for your time. I'll be in touch if I have any additional questions.

PLEASE BE SURE TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF YOUR CALLS ON THE LINK PROVIDED ELECTRONICALLY.