

# Republican Plan to End Medicare

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## Talking Points

- House Republicans voted to end Medicare—but protect tax breaks for millionaires, billionaires, and Big Oil
- This reckless privatization scheme is an insult to every hardworking American who has paid into Medicare
- Medicare belongs to the people who worked their whole life to pay into the system. It's not the government's piggybank to balance the budget on the backs of seniors.
- Seniors, our children, and grandchildren deserve better than an extreme Republican scheme that would impose dangerous benefit cuts to Medicare

## Key Facts

- ❖ **GOP Budget Would Almost Double Healthcare Costs For Seniors.** “The Republican congressman's proposal to privatize Medicare would mean a dramatic hike in U.S. healthcare costs for the elderly, an independent analysis finds. Seniors would pay almost double — more than \$12,510 a year.” [Los Angeles Times, 4/7/11]
- ❖ **The Republican Budget Will Force Nearly Four Million Seniors To Pay An Additional \$2.2 Billion For Prescription Drugs Next Year Alone.** “Since passing their reckless budget plan last week, Republicans nationwide have continued to make the false claim that their plan protects today’s seniors. But seniors need to know the facts about the GOP plan. The Republican-passed budget will force nearly four million seniors to pay an additional \$2.2 BILLION for prescription drugs next year alone.” [DPCC, 4/21/11; Associated Plan, 4/06/11]
- ❖ **AARP: Budget Undermines Vital Programs for Older Americans.** “Among its provisions, the proposal would drive up costs for people in Medicare, take away needed coverage for long-term care from millions of older and disabled Americans and reduce critical help for seniors facing the threat of hunger.” [AARP, 4/7/11]
- ❖ **CBO: Elderly People Would Pay More for Health Care Under the Republican Plan.** According to the CBO, “most elderly people would pay more for their health care than they would pay under the current Medicare system.” [CBO, 4/05/11]
- ❖ **Medicare Cost Would Rise for Many Under Ryan Plan.** “The House Republican plan for overhauling Medicare would fundamentally change how the federal government pays for health care, starting a decade from now, likely resulting in higher out-of-pocket costs and greater limits to coverage for many Americans.” [WSJ, 4/6/11]
- ❖ **GOP Budget Raises Health Costs for Retirees.** “Most future retirees would pay more for health care under a new House Republican budget proposal, according to an analysis by nonpartisan experts for Congress that could be an obstacle to GOP ambitions to tame federal deficits.” [AP, 4/6/11]

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