

# Committee on Ways and Means

## GOP's Special Interest: Seniors

### *Why the Bipartisan Medicare Agreement helps Seniors, not Special Interests*

Liberal critics falsely claim H.R. 1 helps a few narrow interests while ignoring the needs of seniors. Seniors are the number one priority in H.R. 1. This legislation ensures seniors have access – *for the first time* – to affordable prescription drugs and 21<sup>st</sup> Century medical breakthroughs under Medicare.

#### **FACTS:**

1. AARP supports H.R. 1 because it provides a good Medicare drug benefit for seniors. It also provides needed disease management for seniors with chronic illness, so they can live longer, healthier lives. Other important senior groups supporting H.R. 1 include: *The 60 Plus Association, United Seniors Association, the Seniors Coalition and the National Council on the Aging.*
2. The American Medical Association supports H.R. 1 because it ensures that American seniors continue to have access to their doctors.
3. The American Hospital Association supports H.R. 1 because it helps support seniors' access to hospitals all across the country, especially those in rural areas who today have limited access to specialists and new treatments.
4. Groups representing millions of patients support H.R. 1 because it will provide critical care to these individuals. Those groups include: *the American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, Arthritis Foundation, Alzheimer's Association and the Disease Management Association of America.*
5. H.R. 1 was crafted to deliver physician-prescribed medicines to seniors at the lowest prices, which means that pharmaceutical manufacturers are not generating inflated profits. By excluding from Medicare government set prices for drugs, it is estimated that H.R. 1 saves seniors and taxpayers billions. H.R. 1 also saves money by moving cheaper generic drugs to market sooner.