

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 15, 2011

President Barack H. Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write to urge you to submit a legislative proposal to Congress in response to the Medicare funding warning issued in the 2010 Medicare Trustees' Report. Such a proposal would help prevent the bankruptcy of this vital program for America's seniors and keep the federal government from going further into debt. Furthermore, such a proposal would put your Administration back in compliance with federal law.

Your Administration is currently in violation of section 802 of P.L. 108-173, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA). The MMA required the Medicare Trustees to include in their annual report an estimate of whether general fund revenues will finance more than 45 percent of total Medicare expenditures in any of the following six years. If the Trustees estimate in two consecutive years that the 45-percent limit will be breached within a seven year timeframe, the Administration is then required to submit a legislative proposal that would address the funding crisis within 15 days of submitting its annual budget proposal to Congress.

The Medicare Trustees have complied with federal law and have issued funding warnings every year since 2007. In 2008, the Bush Administration, in compliance with Section 802 of the MMA, submitted a legislative proposal to Congress, which was never acted upon. Your Administration, however, has failed to submit such a proposal for the last three years.

This not only defies federal law but also abdicates your Administration's responsibility to lead. As you know, mandatory spending is currently projected to grow at an average of 5.4 percent per year over the next 10 years, growing from \$2 trillion in 2012 to \$3.3 trillion by 2021. The largest claim on the budget over the next 75 years is Medicare, estimated at \$35 trillion.

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We ask you to comply with the law and submit to Congress the Administration's legislative proposal addressing the Medicare funding warning included in the 2010 Annual Report of the Boards of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds.

Sincerely,

Jerry Moran

Rob Portman

Mr. Pitt (FL)

Ron Johnson

Rand Paul

Samy Chamberlain

Mike Crogo

Boucarrh

Tom Colon

Chuck Grassley

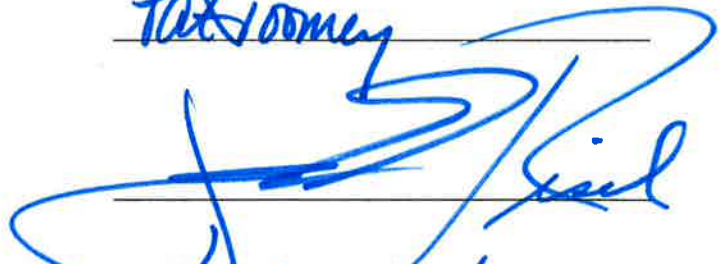


John Boehner

Jeff Sessions

Walter Scott

Pat Romney



Jay Byrley Hutchison

Mike Johnson

Janis DeMint

John Mc

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