



Resolution 2017 – 2 Passed 8-21-17

Protection of Our Earned Benefits under Medicare & Medicaid

Whereas President Lyndon Johnson and Congress Created Medicare in 1965 to guarantee access to health insurance for Americans age 65 and older; and

Whereas grassroots American opposition protected Medicare and Medicaid in 2011 from being cut in an effort to balance the budget; and

Whereas grassroots American opposition has continuously protected Medicaid from cuts and traditional Medicare from the Republican House Budget Committee Chairmen's dangerous proposals to privatize the program, which would benefit insurance companies at beneficiaries making it harder for seniors to afford health care, prescription drugs, preventative care and nursing home benefits; and

Whereas grassroots American opposition protected beneficiaries in 2015 from a 52% Medicare premium rate hike: and

Whereas America's more than 58.4 million seniors have paid (and 171 million workers are currently paying) their hard earned money into Medicare; and

Whereas Medicare represents a commitment between the government and its citizens, is one of America's most critical programs, and could be greatly improved by enacting the Medicare Drug Savings Act and;

Therefore, be it resolved that: One of NARA's top priorities as an organization of voting seniors is the protection and expansion of Medicare for current and future retirees and the protection of Medicaid for those who need it.

Be it further resolved that: NARA urges its members, their families and friends to work closely with the Alliance to preserve Medicare and Medicaid, protect the benefits we have worked, paid and earned by contacting their elected representatives and asking them to defeat any benefit cuts or privatization proposals that would threaten these programs and urge that the costs be contained by eliminating insurance companies' administrative overhead and profits and negotiating for fair drug prices.