

SENIOR AND DISABILITY GROUPS OPPOSE A MEDICARE HOME HEALTH COPAYMENT

“Today, Medicare only covers about half the costs of health care for our seniors and people with disabilities. The [House] bill initiates co-pays for home health visits—a “user tax” on people when they need health services—“

--**Leadership Council of Aging Organizations** – a 51-member coalition of senior organizations, a majority of which are listed below, representing over 40 million older Americans (June 19, 2003)

“Some lawmakers have proposed imposing a copayment – a “sick tax” – on Medicare beneficiaries to receive Medicare home health services...The Seniors Coalition, representing four million supporters nationwide, strongly opposes this tax because it is discriminatory, unfair, punitive, and wrong.”

--**The Seniors Coalition** (June 2003)

“We are also concerned about the imposition of other cost-sharing requirements – specifically a new copay for home health services. This could create a financial burden for some of the Medicare program’s sickest beneficiaries.”

--**AARP** (June 25, 2003)

“The House bill would impose burdensome, new out-of-pocket costs on the most vulnerable, chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries. The [House’s] proposed new home health copayment would primarily affect lower income widows over age 75 – those least able to afford additional out-of-pocket costs – and lead to premature nursing home placement.”

--**The National Council on the Aging** (June 23, 2003)

SENIOR AND DISABILITY GROUPS THAT HAVE EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO A MEDICARE HOME HEALTH COPAYMENT

AARP

Advancing Independence: Modernizing Medicare and Medicaid

American Network for Community Options and Resources
AFL-CIO
AFSCME Retirees
AFT Program on Retirement and Retirees
AIDS Action Council
Alliance for Retired Americans
Alzheimer's Association
American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
American Association for International Aging
American Federation of Teachers Program on Retirement and Retirees
American Geriatric Society
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists
American Society on Aging
Association for Gerontology and Human Development in Historically
Black Colleges and Universities
Catholic Health Association
Center for Medicare Advocacy
Eldercare America, Inc.
Families USA
Gray Panthers
Lutheran Services in America
Meals on Wheels Association of America
Medicare Rights Center
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of State Units on Aging
National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
National Association for Home Care and Hospice
National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers
National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc.
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
National Council on the Aging
National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Indian Council on Aging
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Senior Citizens Law Center
Paralyzed Veterans of America

Older Women's League (OWL)
Service Employees International Union
The Seniors Coalition
The 60 Plus Association
United Auto Workers Retired Workers Department
United Jewish Communities
Volunteers of America