

To: Maryland Delegates and Senators - SB946 and its impact on State Retirees

- **FACT** – MEDICARE PART D does not cover **ALL** prescriptions such as medications for diabetes, arthritis, glaucoma, cancer, heart disease and kidney disease to name a few.
- **FACT** – CO PAYS on brand name drugs in the formulary are more than double the cost.
- **FACT** – No Medicare Part D Plans have an out of pocket cap.
- **FACT** – A State Retiree is prohibited from getting discounts from pharmaceuticals.
- **FACT** – A State Retiree will not qualify for State Aid to help with Cost of Medications.
- **FACT** – State Retirees earned and paid for this benefit.
- **FACT** – There is no guarantee that the Reimbursement Program will reimburse a Retiree the full cost of the medications.
- **FACT** – There is no guarantee that the Life Sustaining Program will cover newer drugs developed to halt illness and disease.
- **FACT** – Retirees **CANNOT AFFORD** to Pay the Out of Pocket Costs upfront because of fixed income.
- **FACT** – MEDICARE PART D costs for prescription drug coverage **WILL** cost be thousands of dollars for retirees.
- **FACT** – If the State has money to reimburse Retirees, they have enough to fund the current program.
- **FACT** – The General Assembly took away RX coverage for State Retirees but kept it for prisoners.
- **FACT** – Retirement plans for Active employees were disregarded when prescription coverage was bifurcated for pre-2011 hires.
- **FACT** – Active employees incurred a subsidy penalty when they retired before December 31, 2019.
- **FACT** – MEDICARE PART D in 2019 has a \$415.00 deductible. The State plan does not.
- **FACT** – State employees purchased their prescription drug coverage for the entirety of their retirement through the buyback program and could **SUE** the State for Millions.
- **FACT** – State employees settled lawsuits with the State to continue their health benefit that includes prescription drug coverage for their retirement and can **SUE** the State for millions.
- **FACT** – State employees injured on the job (Police, Correctional Officers, Troopers) were given health care including prescription drug benefits and can **SUE** the State for millions.
- **FACT** – If the State Retiree cannot afford to pay medication costs up front – they will **DIE** and Maryland lawmakers will be the **EXECUTIONER**.

WE MATTER

The 2019 Maryland General Assembly dangled the promise of reinstatement of the State retirees' prescription drug coverage and then stunned retirees when they issued a death sentence with the passage of SB946. If State Retirees do not get the promised prescription benefits needed to control their illness, they will die. I know – I am one of them.

In June 2018, Maryland State Retirees were informed that as of January 1, 2019, the State was dropping their prescription drugs benefits and that Retirees would have to enroll in Medicare Part D. So, what's the problem? Medicare Part D. It does not cover the prescriptions necessary to maintain the retirees' life and/or the cost is so high that a State retiree on a fixed income cannot afford these prescriptions to stay alive. I know. My out of pocket costs will jump from \$930 a year to over \$11,000 a year (on the cheapest plan) on Medicare Part D.

So, what is wrong with SB946? SB946 gives the illusion that State Retirees will have their prescription drug coverage. Then it tells retirees that they would have to **pay for it out of their pocket** before they can get reimbursed. What! News Flash: The General Assembly passed a new law that did the same thing as the old law. SB946 requires that I (and thousands of others) pay the outrageous costs for prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D without the benefit of the State's wraparound program. So, on paper I still would have my coverage, but financially I am screwed.

Why? I don't have enough money to pay for this coverage every month and wait for reimbursement. I don't have the money because I worked for the State of Maryland and accepted lower wages in exchange for first class retirement benefits.

My future is bleak. I will sell my house, sell my car, move in with my daughter, ration my food, ultimately bankrupt my daughter to pay for this medicine that keeps me alive. My life expectancy cut short because the General Assembly do not think I and thousands like me deserve to live.

Food for thought - if the State of Maryland has the money to pay me back, why make me pay up front for my prescription coverage in the first place?

After I have nothing left to sell, nothing to barter, I will end up on welfare and Medicaid. Then I will quietly pass away – a victim of this discriminatory death penalty. And believe me there will be many more. I know people who are rationing their medicine now, because they will not be able to afford medicine if the **Fitch v. Maryland** lawsuit is unsuccessful. Did lawmakers expect its seniors at 70, 80 or 90 to embark on a new career to obtain prescription drug coverage or do they just want us senior citizens to quietly pass away so they can take our pensions too?

Food for thought. Maryland eliminates prescription drug coverage for senior citizens but continue to pay the cost of healthcare for prisoners and illegal immigrants with our tax dollars.

State retirees need this coverage and a HB1230 will redress this injustice. They were promised these benefits, they paid for these benefits and they demand their return. The General Assembly in this matter has represented every interest but the interest of its employees by passing this law that sentences state retirees to death. I say we are your grandparents, your fathers and mothers, aunts and uncles, we are your neighbors, we are members of your church and most importantly, **WE MATTER**.

Dear General Assembly, your names will be forever etched in Maryland history as the judge, jury and executioner of retired elderly State employees by issuing this death sentence.

Support reinstatement of State Retirees Prescription Drug Coverage.

AFFIDAVIT OF KEN FITCH


I, Kenneth Fitch, am over eighteen years of age and competent to testify to the matter and the facts asserted herein and make this affidavit in support thereof.

1. Prior to my employment with the State of Maryland, the I was a mechanic for Maryland Cup making approximately \$39,000 annually.
2. That in the Spring of 1989, I applied and was hired for a position as a maintenance mechanic at the Department of General Services for the State of Maryland I took a substantial pay cut from my employment with Maryland Cup. I accepted the pay cut in exchange for the superior benefits, including its pension and retiree health benefits, offered by the State of Maryland.
3. During my tenure as an employee of the State of Maryland, I held positions of Maintenance Mechanic, Maintenance Mechanic Senior, Maintenance Chief I, Maintenance Chief II, Maintenance Chief 4 and Building Manager with the State of Maryland.
4. That throughout my tenure with the State of Maryland, I was provided health insurance benefits including prescription drug coverage, dental coverage, and vision coverage.
5. That the State of Maryland deducted the then applicable health insurance benefit premiums from my biweekly paycheck. Each year the State of Maryland adjusted my premium for health insurance benefits.
6. That the State of Maryland deducted an additional amount for retirement contributions from my paycheck. The State of Maryland changed the mandatory retirement contribution rate on numerous occasions.
7. I injured my back in 1993 as a result of a work-related injury. However, I returned to work for the State of Maryland. In 2012, my treating physician recommended that I request a disability retirement due to my affliction of chronic back pain and diabetic complications.
8. The State of Maryland approved my request for Ordinary Retirement as I was a determined to be eligible.
9. I retired at 54 years of age and am 60 years of age at the time of this filing.
10. That in May 2018, I received notice from the Department of Budget and Management informing me of my requirement to register for Medicare Part D for my prescription drug coverage.
11. I am eligible for Medicare Part D due to my disability.
12. I am also a diabetic. I take the following medications:
 1. Furosemide TAB 40MG
 2. Humalog MIX 50/50 Kwikpen INJ
 3. Losartan Potassium TAB 50MG
 4. Metformin Hcl TAB 500MG
 5. Simvastatin TAB 5MG
 6. Toujeo Solostar INJ 300IU/ML
 7. Tramadol Hcl TAB 50MG
 8. Victoza INJ 18MG/3ML

KEN FITCH CON'T

13. I currently pay **\$930.00** in co-pays a year for my medications. Under Medicare Part D I will cost **\$11,683.10** in copay per year.
14. Because the rate is gone up so much, I will not be able to afford my medications. If I cannot take my medications I will die. I left a much better paying position because of the health care benefits in retirement.
15. I was very upset when I found out that the Department of Budget and Management will not continue to provide prescription drug coverage to me although I am a vested employee as do 2012.

I SOLEMNLY AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY AND UPON PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE FOREGOING PAPER ARE TRUE.



Ken Fitch

AFFIDAVIT OF PHYLIS REINARD

I, Phylis Reinard, am over eighteen years of age and competent to testify to the matter and the facts asserted herein and make this affidavit in support thereof

1. I worked for the state of Maryland for 33 years at the Charles County Department of Health. I retired in 2013 as a Nurse Practitioner and took a lower retirement check so that my husband would have my benefits if I die first.
2. My husband has chronic leukocytic leukemia, diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. He is currently in remission because of his oral chemo and his other diseases are well controlled with his medications. These drugs currently cost us **\$760.00 in co-pay** annually.
3. His current medications are:
 1. Venclexta Tab 400mg (oral chemo)
 2. Humalog 75/25 kwikpen Inj
 3. Ezetimibe Tab 10mg
 4. Tamsulosin capsule 0.4mg
 5. Valsarin/Hctz Tab 160/12.5


These drugs currently cost us \$760.00 annually

4. These same drugs will now cost us **\$11,741.05 in co-pay** under Medicare Part D, even though we will be in and out of the doughnut hole in 2 months and he will have to change insulin brand because Silver Script has the best price for the Venclexta but does not have Humalog in it's Medicare part D formulary. I have attached Silver Script printouts on the price of the medication.
5. I have attached a copy of the letter I received in 2014 with the Open Enrollment Benefits Statement. This letter indicated that neither my co-pay or out of pocket maximum would be changing.
6. However, a letter I received dated May 15, 2018, stated something differently. It said that I would no longer have my prescription drug benefits as of July 1, 2019 because of legislation passed in 2011. This legislation was never disclosed in 2011 or any year after that until 2018. I have attached a copy of the May 15, 2018 letter entitled Important Change to Your Retiree Prescription Drug Coverage.
7. As a cancer survivor you know how important accessible medications are for your recovery and remission. My shock, once I began to investigate and call Medicare is that no Medicare part D plan has a co pay for any oral chemo. If your chemo has an IV equivalent, then Medicare part B may pick up the cost however that is not my case. So, unlike our current coverage in all Medicare part D plans these new innovative drugs that keep you out of the hospital and in remission have no co pay, you must pay a percentage of the actual cost of the drug. Medicare part D has no cap on out of pocket spending, therefore I'm looking at one drug costing me \$10,000-\$11,000 a year. Currently I pay an \$80.00 co pay for a 3- month supply. Make no mistake I worked 33 years for this benefit that uniformed legislators took away in one vote without investigating all the financially catastrophic consequences to the employees that served the state of Maryland for decades.

Phylis Reinard con't

8. We will have to drain our savings to afford a prescription bill of this magnitude and after that we do not have a clue what we will do. As a Nurse Practitioner I gave up thousands of dollars a year to work for the state so that our health and prescription benefits would be covered. Our retirement was well planned so that we would not have to worry financially but this has been devastating on multiple fronts

I SOLEMNLY AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE AFOREGOING IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.


Phylis Reinard

Honorable Members of the House Appropriations Committee

Maryland General Assembly

3 West Miller Building

11 Bladen Street

Annapolis, MD 21401

February 12, 2020

Dear Chairwoman and Members,

My name is Su Jusell-Lappin. I wanted to give you some background and to let you know how taking away my State of Maryland Prescription benefits will profoundly affect me. My family moved to the Eastern Shore in 1986 when my Family Practice Physician husband agreed to work in a physician shortage area to pay back several years of medical school. We stayed. I worked for the State of Maryland as a Clinical Social Worker, based at Greensboro Elementary School for 18 years. I provided individual and family therapy and case management services for mostly single parent families in a very poor, rural, population with a high rate of drug and alcohol abuse. I could have earned significantly more money in private practice or working for a non-state agency but I chose to serve the community in which I live. I took a cut in pay to start the job. I successfully was employed in a pilot project as the first Clinical Social Worker based in a Caroline County School. I lived through years of no salary increase, working overtime with no compensation, furlough days, and with the promise of good health benefits and prescription benefits when I retired. I retired in July 2018. In March 2019 I was diagnosed with Stage Four Poorly Differentiated Adenocarcinoma of the lung with metastasis and pleomorphic features. My initial prognosis was 3 to 4 months. After starting a targeted drug treatment that costs **\$531.46 per day, per pill** (approximately \$16,000.00 per month). My various tumors have reduced by 50%. My persistent cough is significantly better. I have only a \$40 co-pay per month which is written off by the drug company. My co-pay would be \$11,000 per month once I switch to a Medicare part D plan for just this prescription. I have five other prescriptions that I have not yet researched to determine what the co-pay would be. There is no help available to me because "my prescription insurance will then be through a state or federal agency." I cannot afford that. It would essentially become a death sentence. Please, Please support HB 1230 and Repeal SB 946. Thank you.

Signed Name: Su Jusell-Lappin

Ms. Su Jusell-Lappin LCSW-C, Retired

12745 Ridgely Rd. Greensboro, MD 21639

House Appropriations Committee
121 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis MD 21401

After graduating from high school, I chose a career with the State of Maryland which offered job security and good benefits. Over the years the benefits improved; however, the salary, not so much but it was sufficient. I retired July 1, 2017 after 46 years of service with the understanding that medical and prescription coverage would remain intact. As you are aware, that did not happen.

As of May 21, 2019 I reviewed Medicare Part D costs @ www.medicare.gov web site and found that the cost of prescriptions for me would be approximately \$12,088. The loss of Medicare Part D (EGWP) will be a financial burden for me. I have several illnesses that require some expensive medications, i.e. Adempas for Pulmonary Hypertension - \$10,115 for a 30 day supply, Janumet for Diabetes - \$615 for 90 day supply.

I served the State of Maryland for many years and this was a benefit I earned. I urge this committee to support "HB1230 State Prescription Drug Benefits - Retirees."

Sincerely,

Deborah M Creager

Deborah M Creager - State of Maryland Retiree
2317 Cool Woods Ct
Jarrettsville MD 21084

Victim Impact Statement

Deborah Garlitz

This is my victim impact statement that will cover both myself and my husband and address the costs we will incur if we lose prescription drug coverage in retirement.

I, Deborah Garlitz, am currently employed by the Division of Public Safety & Correctional Services State of Maryland. I am a 24 year employee and 62 years old.

My husband is 70 years old and retired and is covered under my insurance plan because I am currently still working.

I have reached my full retirement age of 62 and would like to retire but feel I am unable to because of the State's changes to prescription drug coverage in retirement.

My current medications cost \$120 a year in copays. If I retire I am looking at costs of \$3,499.84 a year under the state's proposed plan under SB 946.

My husbands current medications cost \$240 a year in copays. If I retire his medication costs would increase to \$7,458.16 a year under the state's proposed plan under SB 946.

We can't afford those kinds of prescription drug costs.

My husband has had open heart surgery, colon cancer, colonoscopy surgery, hernia repair, skin cancer, a heart stent and now has additional skin cancer to be removed.

I myself have health issues addressed by medications.

I am afraid to retire because of the increase costs in medications. My husband's health continues to deteriorate and we face additional health issues as we age.

Because I could not retire by December 31, 2019, and face these costs, I will be under the second plan wherein I have to become catastrophic under Medicare Part D which is over \$7,000 for each of us every year before the state will respond.

This is not what we've worked our lives for and to have to worry about paying for medications and prescription drug coverage that I earned as compensation in my retirement years for my service to the State of Maryland. Welcome to the Golden Years!

I am asking for your support of HB 1230 so I can keep the prescription drug coverage that I currently have when I retire.

Thank you for your time,

Deborah Garlitz

As a disabled State of Maryland Retiree and constituent, I am contacting you regarding **HB1230**, the State Prescription Drug Benefits for Retirees, scheduled for hearing March 10, 2020. I vehemently urge you to support this life saving legislation as it will save financial and health devastation to myself and countless other State retirees.

Because of my multiple sclerosis and many other health problems my annual drug co-pay is currently \$167.48. When I did a comparison of separate Medicare Part D policies, the closest one to mine now, my Tier 5 injectable MS drug is not covered at all. The other available ones are in the \$9,000.00 annual range.

That plus premium cost is almost as much as a mortgage payment! That is only one of my medicines.

When I retired from service, I was given 6 Retirement Allowance Options to consider and choose from. I choose to take Option 3, a lower monthly pension amount and keep my health benefits for life and for my husband after I'm gone. With these previously contractual guaranteed benefits, my husband and I arranged our financial lives ever since I started working for the State in 1986 to plan our senior living years after he retires. I have been on Social Security for 21 years and my husband is getting close to retirement. We have little time to adjust for a total financial devastation.

The State of Maryland's Retirees need your support and determination to stand up for us and vote for HB 1230 that would grandfather employees hired prior to 2011 and repeal SB 946 to reinstate our Rx Drug benefit.

Thank you for your time and understanding and looking forward to your vote of support. If you would like to speak with me on this, I can be reached anytime at 443.201.4455

Regards,

Mary R. Smith
State of Maryland Retiree
4729 Water Tank Rd.
Manchester, Maryland 21102

Benjamin H. Cohey
12785 Orchard Drive
Cordova, Maryland 21625

Please have answers to the following questions and bring them with you to the meeting.

1. How long have you worked for the state?

33 1/2 Years - Maryland State Police

2. When did you retire?

I retired on July 1, 1999 as a First Lieutenant, Barrack Commander

3. How much does the medication cost you now under the state plan?

All medications for my wife and I cost \$2,107.74, using 2017 for comparison since these figures are for a full year.

4. How much will your medication cost you under Medicare Part D?

The same drugs we took in 2017 would have cost me an average of \$13,397.10-if we were dropped from State Prescription Plan and had to enroll in a Medicare Plan D. My wife is diabetic and insulin is costly because there is no generic for insulin.

5. How will you be able to afford the cost difference?

I would have to draw down our joint savings and beyond that, may have to consider cashing in life insurance policies, selling off personal property or become a ward of the state.

I am sending this letter to you so that you can submit it to _____ as a real life example of the financial ruin State of Maryland retirees would go through if the State of Maryland is allowed to force it's retirees to solely rely on Medicare Part D for prescription coverage.

My wife has had a seizure disorder since she was in the second grade. For years her medications kept her seizures somewhat under control. However, around 2007 she began having seizures quite often and they were occurring anytime, anywhere and under any circumstances. She had also started falling and three of those falls would have been fatal had she fallen as little as 2 inches in the wrong direction. This was all despite the fact she was under the care of a local Neurologist who had her on three seizure medications. At that point we asked for a referral and began to see a Neurologist who is part of a team at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, MD. They hospitalized her for a week and once she was released they slowly, scientifically tried her on various medications until they found the correct drug and dosage that is now keeping her seizure free. Mind you, this did not occur over a few days or months. It took a few YEARS for them to have this level of success. The medication she is taking is Lamictal XR and her doctor truly believes she must take BRAND ONLY not generic.

Yesterday, I met with a counselor at the MAC Center in Salisbury, Maryland who is working with seniors during open enrollment for

Medicare Part D. She discovered that if my wife had to rely solely on Medicare Part D for her prescription coverage for the year 2020 it would cost us at least \$33,467.76 for the year. That figure is astronomical in and of itself but is absolutely appalling when you consider that it will cost us \$320.00 for the year 2020 if we stay on the prescription coverage we have through my State of Maryland retirement.

It is totally unconscionable that the State of Maryland would put their own retirees, who are now SENIOR CITIZENS, in such dire financial straits. ALL of us were told the day we were hired that we would have health and prescription insurance for the rest of our lives if we would agree to put in 30 years of service. Most of us planned our finances for our retirement years with that in mind. What is even more shameful however is that the State of Maryland did not even have the moral decency to forewarn its' own retirees, all the way back in 2011 that this was going to happen. They waited SEVEN YEARS to announce this. By doing so, they took away our only opportunity to plan for this financially.

I truly believe the State of Maryland must now develop all of the morality and ethics it required of its' employees during our years of service, by grandfathering all current retirees into the prescription coverage program that we were promised all those years ago. While doing so they must make this action PERMANENT and one that cannot be undone by a future legislature or governor of the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,
Dennis M. Cathell
Member # 106

Thomas S. Berkeridge Sr.
814 Royal Palm Avenue
Lady Lake, FL. 32159-2343
Phone: 443-926-6197

How do you and the Democratic Legislature sleep at night? I am deeply depressed by the fact that you and the Democratic Legislature are trying to take away my Maryland State Retirement Retiree Prescription Drug Benefits. I really don't sleep well at night thinking about the possibility of losing my State Retirement Prescription Drug Benefits

I was a loyal employee of the State of Maryland with the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund for 30 years. When I retired the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund had a substantial budget surplus that I understood to be in the millions of dollars. I, nor the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund, ever cost the citizens of Maryland or the State of Maryland one penny, as we were a profit making self supporting agency of the state.

I could have gone with a private insurance carrier and made a salary substantially higher than what I was making with the State of Maryland. I chose to stay with the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund and the State of Maryland for the retirement benefits that I was promised. There was always an implied contract with the State of Maryland that as a retired state employee I would receive my retirement benefits, including prescription drug coverage, for the rest of my life.

Employees with other private insurance carriers asked me numerous times why I stayed with the state and I always replied that I stayed with the State of Maryland for the retirement benefits.

My father was a Retired Maryland State Employee with 40 years of state service. Both of my parents used my father's State Employee Retirement Medical benefits until the day they

died. My mother was also a loyal Maryland State Employee for 11 years of her life. For that reason, I always thought all of my Maryland State Retirees Medical Benefits would all be there until the day that I died.

Under the current prescription plan with the State of Maryland my monthly premium totals \$480.48 per year. Currently, under the Maryland State Retirement Prescription coverage my medications cost me \$724.08 for the entire year. Thus, my total Prescription Cost for one year is \$1204.56.

If the Maryland Legislature and you Governor cut my Prescription Drug Plan from my Retirement Benefits package my Prescription Costs will increase substantially.

The Monthly Premium for a good Prescription Drug Coverage under Medicare Part D would be \$76.60 per month or \$919.20 per year. In addition to the premium, there would be a \$415.00 deductible under the plan. My medication costs under a Medicare Part D plan would increase to \$5785.56 per year. The total cost of the Part D Premium \$919.20, the \$415.00 deductible and my medications, \$5785.56, would cost me a total of \$7119.76 per year.

The reason for the high cost of my Medications under a Medicare Part D plan is the fact that two of my medications do not have generics. One is to control the severe BPH of my Prostate and another, that has no generic, is to keep me from going blind with glaucoma.

The total cost difference between my current Maryland State Retirement Medical Prescription Plan and a Medicare Part D plan would cost me an extra \$5915.20 per year.

In effect you would be cutting my monthly income by \$492.93. That would take me from living off my current fixed income to struggling to make ends meet.

Based on my research, the State of Maryland is the richest state in America. That is, Maryland is number one in per capita income. Sadly, when it comes to funding the Retirement Fund for Retired Maryland State Employees, it is my understanding Maryland comes in 43rd out of 50 states.

I find it difficult to understand why you and the Democrats in the House and Senate seem to hate Legal American Citizens and retired Loyal State Employees.

Governor, please explain to me how it feels to be screwing Loyal State of Maryland Retired Employees, while you and the Democrats in the House and Senate are giving Illegal Aliens \$1.9 billion a year? It must really feel great to have all of your benefits, while trying to cut the Medical Prescription benefits of Legal, Loyal Maryland State Retired Employees.

You have had cancer and have survived, but you don't seem to have any compassion for others who need our Medical Prescription Benefits to Survive.

I am not one to beg, but I ask you not cut the current Maryland State Retiree Prescription Plan from my Retirement Benefits, as it would effectively destroy my life.

Please note that I moved to Florida, because Florida does not have a state income tax. I did that to make my retirement income go further.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T. Berkeridge'.

Thomas S. Berkeridge Sr.

A faint, illegible handwritten note or stamp, possibly a date or reference number, located below the signature.

Following chemotherapy, I will most likely have double mastectomies, with new scripts. Finally, I will undergo radiation therapy, with associated scripts to manage that treatment phase. For planning purposes, I have no idea what these new prescriptions are or what they will cost. This is the tip of a very substantial iceberg.

To add to my relevant biography, I served as an Academic Advisor and Consultant to as many as 60,000 State of Maryland undergraduates, primarily at UMD, over 40+ years of contributing service. These former students are law enforcement officers, nurses, lawyers, emergency room physicians, professional golfers, investment bankers, orthopedic surgeons, and scientists, to name but a few.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Lachman". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Linda" and last name "Lachman" clearly distinguishable.

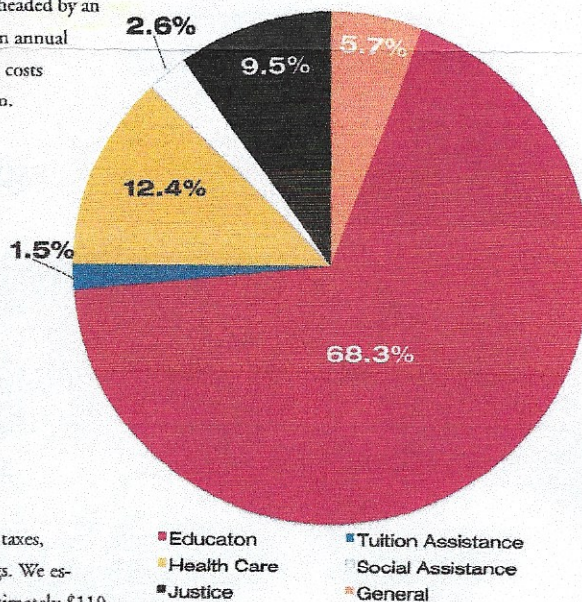
Linda Lachman

Executive Summary

Maryland's policy towards illegal aliens has resulted in a fast growing illegal alien population and a rapidly increasing fiscal burden on the state's taxpayers. Unsatisfied with the accommodations already in place for illegal aliens, the state legislature adopted a measure in 2011 (SB 167) that allows illegal aliens to extend their taxpayer-funded education beyond public elementary and secondary schooling to higher education. The state's voters will have the opportunity to decide in the November 2012 election whether they want to reverse this policy.

This updated study on what illegal immigration costs Maryland taxpayers includes the following findings:

- The state's taxpayers currently pay nearly \$1.9 billion in taxes because of the presence of an estimated 295,000 illegal aliens plus nearly 68,000 children born in the United States to illegal aliens.
- In-state tuition for illegal aliens in post-secondary schools will cost the state's taxpayers more than \$28 million annually under the 2011 legislation if approved by the voters. This cost to taxpayers will increase as more illegals aliens move to Maryland.
- The average Maryland household headed by an American or legal resident shares an annual burden of about \$910 to cover the costs of the state's illegal alien population.
- Because more than two-thirds of the cost of illegal immigration in Maryland is for education (see chart), and much of that cost is funded locally, the fiscal cost burden is heavier where the illegal alien population is greatest. Montgomery and Prince George's county taxpayers have a greater than average annual burden (\$1,420 and \$1,025 respectively).
- Illegal aliens pay relatively little in taxes, mainly because of their low earnings. We estimate that the state receives approximately \$119 million in tax collections from illegal aliens — only a fraction the costs of illegal immigration borne by the taxpayers.



7503 Creighton Drive
College Park, MD 20740
February 5, 2020

Thank you for saving me a great deal of money this year alone through our class action suit. I may be a helpful example of how dramatically the medical circumstances of just one State of Maryland retiree can change.

Until the year 2019, I would have characterized Fibromyalgia as my greatest health concern, as a fairly healthy 70 year old. I had successfully managed the pain and fatigue of Fibromyalgia over a period of 35+ years. In the year 2019, I suddenly experienced a ruptured appendix, pulmonary embolisms and inflammatory breast cancer.

A new blood thinning drug added to my regimen indefinitely for the embolisms is Xarelto. With the class action suit in place, **I paid \$50 for a three-month supply.** Had you not filed, the retail price was more on the order of **\$1600 every three months.**

Of the many new drugs required to manage my breast cancer is Ondansetron HCL. Prescribed to manage the upset stomach caused by intense chemotherapy for the 4-6 months required, **I pay \$3.33 for a drug that retails for at least \$1000 "as needed" during those 4-6 months.** Also required every three weeks, for four to six months, is Neulasta. This injection, prescribed to reduce the chance of infection during chemotherapy, **cost me \$25.** The retail price is **at least \$5,977.**

I am writing today in support of ~~SB~~ HB 1230
My name is Deborah Louise Lashbaugh (Print).

I worked for 28 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Dept. of Labor, Licensing & Reg. in July 2009 (medical)

I currently pay 1,138.89 per year for my prescription drug coverage. (per Silver Script)

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay over 20,000 a year under Medicare Part D.

The most expensive meds are not generic (Januvia and Advair). Armour thyroid is not covered at all on Medicare web site. It had to be called to a med. rep. to come up with an approximate amount. I couldn't get it myself and I am fairly computer literate.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Printed Name:

Address:

Deborah L Lashbaugh

Deborah L Lashbaugh

1311 West Church St
Hagerstown, MD 21740

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230.

My name is ALLEN E. SWOPE (Print).

I worked for 33 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from MARYLAND STATE POLICE in 1996.

I currently pay \$443 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$17,829 a year under Medicare Part D.

THAT WOULD BE AN INCREASE OF \$12,825 ADDED
TO MY LIVING EXPENSES. THAT ADDED INCREASE
MAY FORCE ME TO LEAVE MY CHILDHOOD HOME IF MY
SAVINGS WERE DRAINED - SHOULD A RELIANT
EXTENDED ILLNESS WOULD BE FALL MY 80 YEAR
OLD WIFE OR I INTO BLINDNESS.
WHEN I ACCEPTED THE JOB AS A MARYLAND
STATE TROOPER WHICH DOES NOT HAVE THE BEST
PAY OR RETIREMENT I WAS TOLD THE USA
OFFERED RETIREMENT BENEFITS & SECURITY
FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
THEN THE STATE BETRAYED THEIR PROMISE.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Allen E. Swope

Printed Name: ALLEN E. SWOPE

Address: 14606 FALLING WATERS ROAD
WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795

I am writing today in support of ~~SB~~ HB 1230.

My name is Carolyn Taylor (Print).

I worked for 29 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland Port Administration in 2017.

I currently pay \$1,500 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$4,542.32 a year under Medicare Part D.

My husband is a lung transplant patient and he takes 30⁺ medications as part of his post-transplant (to stop rejection and infection) regime. He has indicated that he will stop taking his expensive medications if the prescription plan is not reinstated. That means for me and our son watching my husband die. Without the reinstatement of the prescription plan our savings would be quickly exhausted.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Carolyn Taylor

Printed Name: Carolyn Taylor

Address: 2011 Eastridge Rd
Timonium Md 21093

I am writing today in support of SB/HB HB 1230.

My name is DON ZORN (Print).

I worked for 34 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from STATE RETIREMENT AGENCY in 2010.

I currently pay \$1,084 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay FROM \$1,571 to \$11,562 a year under Medicare Part D.

I WILL HAVE TO GIVE UP THESE LIFE-SAVING MEDICATIONS.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Don Zorn

Printed Name:

DON ZORN

Address:

810 SAINT PAUL ST, APT 103
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

Dear Chairwoman King and Members,

I am writing today in support of SB/HB Yes - 1230

My name is Michael P. Keifer (Print).

I worked for 17 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Div. of Corrections in 2001

I currently pay _____ per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay 12,000.⁰⁰ a year under Medicare Part D.

We would have to sell our home to pay for
our meds.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Michael P. Keifer

Printed Name:

Michael P. Keifer

Address:

733 Maryland Ave
Hagerstown Md.

I am writing today in support of SB (HB) 1230.

My name is Debbie Koman (Print).

I worked for 30+ years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Towson University in Oct. 2018.

I currently pay 345.⁴⁸ per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay 10,204.⁰⁰ a year under Medicare Part D.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Debbie Koman

Printed Name:

Debbie Koman

Address:

4003 Jacinth Way
Nottingham, MD 21236

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230.

My name is Pamela L. Ogens (Print).

I worked for 24 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Dept of Health + 7 months Mental Hygiene in 7/1/03.

I currently pay \$1526.25 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$10,833.96 a year under Medicare Part D.

This is an increase of 1290%. Our savings would
be gone. Selling our home and moving to Florida with our
daughter is a possibility. Divorce bankruptcy and/or foreclosure
are options we would face if our State Rx plan is
taken away.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Pamela L. Ogens

Printed Name:

Pamela L. Ogens

Address:

134 Sonata Way
Centreville, MD 21617

I am writing today in support of SB/ HB 1230

My name is Robert R. Ford (Spouse) (Print).

~~I~~ ^{Wife} worked for 25 years for the State of Maryland.

~~I~~ ^{Wife} retired from DWR in _____.

~~I~~ ^{Wife} currently pay \$2,400.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$17,400. + a year under Medicare Part D.

Depletion of Savings, Loss of Home, etc.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Robert R. Ford Jr.

Printed Name:

Robert R. Ford, Jr.

Address:

1008 Lantern Hill Ct
Salisbury, MD 21804

I am writing today in support of (SB) (HB) 1230

My name is GAIL E COMBS (Print)

I worked for 21+ years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from EASTERN SHORE HOS CTR. in 2011.

I currently pay \$61 ⁰⁵ total cost to pay (2017)

My state monthly premium is \$44.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage. (2017)
If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$11,625.11 ^{Express Scripts}
My drug coverage now is 44.00 EA month now from my pension plan = \$284.11 ^{Silver Scripts}
a year under Medicare Part D.

I went to my local Office of the Aging
(Cambridge Md) and Mrs. Handley assisted me to check
what the cost would be under the Medicare Part D plan
for my medications. - see attached.

We checked the lowest two plans:

(1) Express Scripts (2) Silver Scripts
#1 yearly cost = \$11,625.11 (cost if no MC Pt D) #2 yearly cost = \$12,208.54 (cost if no MC Pt D)
#1 \$844.31 EVERY MO (AFTER \$2,332.14 JAN) #2 \$891.51 EVERY MO (AFTER \$2,401.30 JAN)

* Under MC I would fall into the "Donut Hole" AFTER
January, thus the rest of the year I would have to
pay the monthly cost for the rest of the year - both plans.

The only way I could afford MC Pt D coverage would be
to stop my oral chemo drug which is keeping my cancer
Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony. Under control - A choice of
LIFE OR DEATH FOR ME!

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Gail E Combs 12/4/18

Printed Name: GAIL E. COMBS

Address: 903 PEACH BLOSSOM AVE
CAMBRIDGE MD 21613

WE MATTER

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230

My name is Olga Tsipenyuk (Print).

I worked for 27 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Judicial Information System in Annapolis

I currently pay \$1538 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$10940 a year under Medicare Part D.

I will have to drain my saving account

I was working very hard for 27 years &
Driving every day to Annapolis - Round
trip - 80 miles, only to have my benefits
when I retire. I could find the job close
to my home with better money, but
I stayed only because of benefit.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Olga Tsipenyuk

Printed Name:

OLGA TSIPENYUK

Address:

8326 MEADOWSWEET RD.
PIKESVILLE, MD 21208

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230

My name is Christine M. Fitzgerald (Print).

I worked for 23 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Dept. of Transportation - MVA in January 2016
as a Personnel Admin. III

I currently pay \$188.78 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$9,699.72 a year under Medicare Part D.

As I currently take a Tier 5 medication, I would not be able to continue taking this medication. This drug alone would cost me \$1,647.82 per month. Without this medication my quality of life would not be good. The symptoms would keep me home bound. This medical problem began in June 2018.

Most of the Medicare D Plans do not cover Tier 5 drugs. The one that I found is mail-order only and the reviews were all bad. Most problems dealt with prescriptions not arriving and poor customer service.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Christine M. Fitzgerald

Printed Name:

Christine M. Fitzgerald

Address:

644 B Street
Pasadena, MD 21122

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1830.

My name is Howard Kilian (Print).

I worked for 31 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from STATE Highway Admin. in 2004.

I currently pay \$965.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$13,065 a year under Medicare Part D.

The high cost of Part D is due to cancer drug
for Leukemia CLL

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Howard Kilian Jr.

Printed Name: HOWARD KILIAN

Address: 5216 Onion Rd
Pylesville, MD 21137

WE MATTER

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1830.

My name is George Howard Reith (Print).

I worked for 25 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland State Police in 1991.

I currently pay \$699.22 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$16,191 a year under Medicare Part D.
retail

If my prescription drug coverage is terminated
I will not be able to afford the cost
difference and I would have to drain my
savings, sell my house or die.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

George Howard Reith by
Nancy Reith POA

Printed Name:

George Howard Reith

Address:

508 Alydar Ct.
Chesapeake, MD 21025

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230.

My name is LAURA A. Smith (Print).

I worked for 27 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from MC1H in _____.

I currently pay 300 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$29,000 a year under Medicare Part D.

My cost for a Tier 3 drugs will go to \$1380.00
every 3 months from 50.00. I currently take
3 of these of these drugs.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Laura A. Smith

Printed Name: LAURA A. Smith

Address: 917 Noland Dr
Hagerstown, Md 21740

I am writing today in support of SB/HB _____.

My name is Cecily Taylor (Print).

I worked for 29 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland Port Administration in 2017.

I currently pay \$1,500 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$24,542.32 a year under Medicare Part D.

My husband is a lung transplant patient and he takes 30+ medications as part of his post-transplant (to stop rejection and infection) regimen. He has indicated that he will stop taking his expensive medications if the prescription plan is not reinstated. That means for me and our son watching my husband die. Without the reinstatement of the prescription plan our savings would be quickly exhausted.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Cecily Taylor

Printed Name: Cecily Taylor

Address: 2011 Eastridge Rd
Timonium Md 21093

WE MATTER

Northern Maryland - 11/2018

I am writing today in support of HB 1170.

My name is Diane Watkins Ramsey (Print).

I worked for 29 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland Department of Natural Resources in 1996.

I currently pay \$1,317.26 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$967.16 a year under Medicare Part D.

In order to afford this cost I will have to use savings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Printed Name:

Address:

Diane W Ramsey
Diane W Ramsey
1608 Woodtree Ct. W
Annapolis, MD 21409-5451

I am writing today in support of SB/HR 1230.

My name is Frank C Ogens (Print).

My wife ~~I~~ worked for 34 years for the State of Maryland.

She retired from Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene in 2003.

I currently pay \$1526.25 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$10,833.96 a year under Medicare Part D.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Frank C Ogens

Printed Name:

Frank C Ogens

Address:

134 Sonata Way
Centerville, MD 21617

I am writing today in support of HB 1230.

My name is ADELIN E STEVENS (Print).

I worked for 31 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL in 1997.

I currently pay \$617⁰⁰ per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$9,572⁰⁰ a year under Medicare Part D.

*If my copays are higher I would have
to ~~not~~ sell my home and move in
with my son.*

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Adeline Stevens

Printed Name: ADELIN E STEVENS

Address: 14 GILMER ST. ANNAPOLIS, MD.

21401

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230

My name is Carolyn Taylor

(Print).

I worked for 29 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland Port Administration

in 2017

I currently pay \$1,500 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$4,542.32 a year under Medicare Part D.

My husband is a lung transplant patient and he takes 30+ medications as part of his post-transplant (to stop rejection and infection) regime. He has indicated that he will stop taking his expensive medications if the prescription plan is not reinstated. That means for me and our son watching my husband die without the reinstatement of the prescription plan our savings would be quickly exhausted.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Carolyn Taylor

Printed Name: Carolyn Taylor

Address: 2011 Eastridge Rd
Timonium Md 21093

WE MATTER

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230

My name is Frank C Ogens (Print).

My wife I worked for 34 years for the State of Maryland.

She retired from Dept of Health + Mental Hygiene in 2003.

I currently pay \$1526.25 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$10,833.96 a year under Medicare Part D.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Frank C Ogen

Printed Name:

FRANK C Ogens

Address:

134 Sonata Way

Centreville MD 21617

I am writing today in support of ~~HB~~ 1230

My name is Sandra Kay (Hodge) Strock (Print).

I worked for 38 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Harford Co. Health Dept, Nursing-Supervisor Office June 30 2009

I currently pay \$2,076 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$8,530 a year under Medicare Part D.

To avoid the cost difference I would try:

1- State Health Insurance Assistance Programs

2- Savings

3- 401K

4- ?

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Sandra Strock 12/27/2018

Printed Name:

Sandra Strock

Address:

2507 Calvary Road
Bel Air, MD 21015-6613

I am writing today in support of HB 1230

My name is **Diane Jorio**. I worked for 22 years for the State of Maryland. I retired in 2008 from MDTA. I currently pay \$850.00 out of pocket for my medications under the State RX drug Coverage Plan. My medications would cost approximately over \$9,000 a year under Medicare Part D. If I have to pay for it out of my own pocket, I think I would be forced to stop taking a few of my medications. My IRA is plunging faster than I can take it out. I will not lose my home as it is my biggest asset. I will just have to face the fact that I probably won't live as long.

We trusted the state of Maryland. I gave it all my working years till I got sick. Sure, I could have gotten a better paying job in the private sector but I knew there would be a light at the end of the tunnel. I'm devastated that the state would turn their backs on us in our golden years. Most of us can't go back to work, I'm 69 years old, who would hire me? My memory is failing, I can hardly use my hands!! Our blood will be on your hands!! You can become a hero to us, vote with your conscience, your mothers raised decent people, would you want her in this horrible situation

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

I remain,

Signed Name:

Diane Jorio

Printed Name:

Diane L Jorio

Address:

549 Tapatio Lane

Kissimmee, FL 33559

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230.

My name is NORA BROWN (Print).

I worked for 43 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH in 2013.

I currently pay \$635 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$4464 a year under Medicare Part D.

This would be a great hardship for me as I would have to sell my home or face bankruptcy.

My health would deteriorate as I would not be able to afford my medications.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Nora Brown

Printed Name:

NORA BROWN

Address:

PO Box 635 EDGEWATER, MD.
21037

WE MATTER

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1130.

My name is Curtis D. Time (Print).

I worked for 20 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Division of Corrections in 2003.

I currently pay \$750.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$8,000.00 a year under Medicare Part D.

I'm on 14 medications

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Printed Name:

Address:

[Signature]
Curtis D. Time
505 Pennell St
Cumberland, Md. 21502

WE MATTER

WESTERN Maryland - 11/2018

I am writing today in support of SB/HB

1230

My name is PAMELA E. CAPEN (Print).

I worked for 23 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Harford Co. D.S.S. in Bel Air, MD

I currently pay 796.56 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay _____ a year under Medicare Part D.

Current \$796.56 plus, is \$25 for drugs for me and is \$25
for my spouse each every 90 days

Prescription Plan Part D - \$3,446 - Pamela

Prescription Plan Part D - \$4,050 - David

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Pamela E. Capen

Printed Name:

PAMELA E. CAPEN

Address:

P.O. Box 3249, 3007 Dolly St.
North Myrtle Beach, SC
29582

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230.

My name is Dianne Day (Print).

I worked for 39 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Department of Natural Resources in 2005.

I currently pay \$430 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$11,100 a year under Medicare Part D.

Growing up my parents instilled in me and my siblings to not boast about tomorrow, as no one knows what tomorrow will bring. Without the prescription plan I currently have our family would lose a quarter of our income to prescriptions. The price difference between brand and generic would be almost impossible to pay. When I retired the family budget was adjusted to pay for housing, food, etc. This also is based on meds currently being taken, which could change. I feel my retirement income was determined with the first check, which included amounts being paid for insurance and prescription.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Dianne J. Day

Printed Name:

Dianne J. Day

Address:

32220 Longridge Rd
Parsonsburg, MD 21849

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1230

My name is Vicky A. Patton

(Print).

I worked for 12 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland State Police as a Trooper in 1991

I currently pay 172.10 ^{For medication} per year for my prescription drug coverage. And 73.75 monthly Premium.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$36,022.00 ^{plus \$831.60 annual Premium} a year under Medicare Part D.

I was retired due to an injury in the line of duty and I don't know how my injury will progress and what medications I will require as I get older. I am now 68 years old. My husband is covered under my insurance and under the current plan our premium is \$73.75 per month ^{for the two of us} and the premium will be \$69.30 per month, however I will then pay \$36,022.04 For medication! This is the problem. Medicare Part D without the State of Maryland doesn't cover what our current plan does. Between the two of us, our premium per month was 73.75 and if our plan is discontinued the premium just for me will be 69.30 a month. ~~For~~ This means that with the State of Maryland insurance we were paying \$85.00 for the two of us. Now it will be \$831.60 a year for EACH of us (!); if our prescription plan is discontinued. Please, please, please reconsider.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Vicky A. Patton

Printed Name:

Vicky A. Patton

Address:

5119 Fleming Road
MT. Airy, MD 20771

I am writing today in support of SB/HR 1230.

My name is Leon Utens (Print).

I worked for 34 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Towson University in 2005.

I currently pay \$780 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$11,605 a year under Medicare Part D.

This is the least expensive plan of the only 7 insurers
that cover my Northera medication which is the
only drug manufactured for Neurogenic Orthostatic
Hypotension (NOH) that is considered a rare
disorder. I am ineligible to receive financial
assistance from the pharmaceutical company
because I receive Medicare. I also have high
priced drugs for my Parkinson's Disease
and Deep Vein Thrombosis. I will need to use
my retirement savings to pay for my drugs.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Leon Utens

Printed Name:

Leon Utens

Address:

25252 Quail Croft Place

Leesburg, FL 34748

WE MATTER

Eastern Maryland - 11/2018

I am writing today in support of SB/HB 1730

My name is Ronald F. Harshman (Print).

I worked for 35 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Maryland State Police in 1992.

I currently pay \$190.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$12,381.00 a year under Medicare Part D.

The drug and health coverage was part of our retirement package. If the drug coverage was to be taken from us we would have to forego some of our future plans. This would drastically impact our purchasing power which would impact our quality of life.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Ronald F. Harshman

Printed Name:

RONALD F. HARSHMAN

Address:

7 Woodguth Place
Palm Coast, Florida 32164

I am writing today in support of ~~SB~~/HB 1820.

My name is SHIRLEY TURNER (Print).

I worked for 36 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER in 2010.

I currently pay \$0.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$9854 a year under Medicare Part D.

MY HUSBAND CURRENTLY PAYS \$360 PER YEAR
UNDER MY COVERAGE. UNDER A MEDICARE
D PLAN MY YEARLY RX COVERAGE FOR MYSELF
ONLY WOULD BE \$9854. I COULD NEVER AFFORD
THIS COST I WOULD STOP TAKING MY RX'S DUE
TO LACK OF FUNDS. ALSO CURRENTLY I PAY
MUCH LESS THROUGH FOR MY MONTHLY PREMIUMS
FOR MY SPOUSE + MYSELF. THAT WOULD DOUBLE
UNDER MEDICARE D.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Shirley Turner

Printed Name:

SHIRLEY TURNER

Address:

241 WILLARD DRIVE
NORTH EAST, MD 21901

I am writing today in support of ~~SS~~/HIB 1670.

My name is STEPHEN K MCDANIEL (Print).

I worked for 26 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from MARYLAND STATE POLICE in 1993.

I currently pay 797.00 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$8,064⁰⁰ a year under Medicare Part D.

I OBTAINED THE \$8,064 FROM THE MEDICARE WEBSITE.
THE TOTAL FOR MY COVERAGE AND MY WIFE'S COVERAGE
WOULD INCREASE BY A TOTAL OF \$7267. THIS WOULD
CONSTITUTE AN EXTREME HARDSHIP ON US. WE HAVE
ONLY MY STATE RETIREMENT AND HER \$640 MONTHLY SOCIAL
SECURITY TO LIVE ON. I DO NOT RECEIVE SOCIAL SECURITY
BENEFITS. THE ABOVE FIGURE IS FOR OUR CURRENT MINIMAL
PRESCRIPTIONS WHICH I AM SURE WILL INCREASE AS WE GET
OLDER. A \$7267 INCREASE WOULD EAT INTO OUR SAVINGS AND
CURTAIL MANY ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR OUR RETIREMENT.
WHEN I JOINED THE MARYLAND STATE POLICE IN 1967 IT WAS
IMPLIED THAT OUR BENEFITS WOULD ALWAYS BE OURS.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name:

Stephen K McDaniel

Printed Name:

STEPHEN K MCDANIEL

Address:

48 N. LEAFLAND PT.
LECANTO, FL. 34461-7300

I am writing today in support of HB 1230

My name is Carol A. Nida (Print).

I worked for 34 years for the State of Maryland.

I retired from Comptroller of Maryland, Information Technology in June 2004
Division

I currently pay \$480.48 per year for my prescription drug coverage.

If my prescription drug coverage is not reinstated, I will have to pay \$10,140 a year under Medicare Part D.

There are some medicines I take that are non-generic and not covered by my prescription plan, that cost me approximately \$800 a year. There are currently some medications I take that are not fully covered by my prescription plan that I make a partial payment on, but the amount is about \$2-\$3 every 90 days each and not a significant yearly cost.

My concern is that ^{as} I age there will be more medications I need on a daily basis, and without the current prescription plan I have with my former employer, (which I was told would continue after retirement), I will be bankrupt and homeless within a few years.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Signed Name: Carol A. Nida

Printed Name: CAROL A. NIDA

Address: 1608 KNOXVILLE RD

EDGEWATER, MD 21037