

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Guy Molyneux and Bob Ward
DATE: March 17, 2023
RE: Voters' Support Increasing

On behalf of Arnold Ventures, the bi-partisan team of Hart Research Associates and Fabrizio Ward has conducted a national survey examining voters' support for proposed reforms to the Medicare Advantage payment system, and their concerns about overbilling by participating insurance companies. We interviewed 1001 registered voters nationwide from March 14 to 16, 2023, and the survey's confidence interval is ± 3.2 percentage points. This memo reviews the survey's key findings.

By an overwhelming margin, voters support reforms to prevent overbilling of Medicare Advantage by insurance companies recently proposed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

- Almost nine in 10 voters (87%) favor reforms to Medicare Advantage payments to prevent overbilling by insurance companies and reduce overpayments for coverage, while just 4% are opposed.
- Medicare recipients also favor the reforms by 87% to 4%.
- Support crosses political lines, with Democrats (90%), independents (85%), and Republicans (86%) all voicing similar levels of support. Biden voters (89%) and Trump voters (87%) both strongly endorse the reforms.
- Support is uniform across the country: 88% in the Northeast, 87% in the South, 87% in the Midwest, and 87% in the West.

Voters—including Medicare beneficiaries—are worried that insurance companies will overcharge Medicare Advantage, and they want the government to do more to prevent fraudulent billing practices and overpayment of insurers.

- By a 30-point margin, voters say they worry that insurance companies will overcharge Medicare for the coverage they provide to increase their profits (65%), rather than trusting insurance companies to bill Medicare a fair and appropriate amount for the coverage they provide (35%). Medicare beneficiaries are somewhat more trusting, but a 52% majority still worry that insurers will overcharge Medicare.
- Strong majorities say that the government should do more to protect Medicare Advantage from insurers in each of these ways:
 - Seventy percent say to do more to prevent fraudulent billing practices by health insurance companies in Medicare Advantage (69% among Medicare beneficiaries).
 - Sixty-five percent say to do more to hold health insurance companies in Medicare Advantage accountable for providing

value to beneficiaries and taxpayers (60% among Medicare beneficiaries).

- Sixty-four percent say to do more to make sure health insurance companies in Medicare Advantage are not overpaid for the coverage they provide (60% among Medicare beneficiaries).

Medicare and Medicare Advantage are both widely admired, but insurance companies are viewed less favorably.

- By a 10-to-1 ratio (70% to 7%), voters view Medicare favorably. Seniors view Medicare favorably by 89% to 5%.
- Voters view Medicare Advantage plans favorably by a five-to-one ratio, 51% to 10%, with 38% neutral or unfamiliar with the plans. Seniors have a favorable view by 72% to 10%.
- Just 48% have a favorable opinion of health insurance companies, while a substantial 30% hold unfavorable views.