

Medicare Maladies

A Series that Exposes the Dangerous Elements of the Medicare Bill currently in Committee

MM #4: Who Really Pays for the Prescription Drug Benefit?

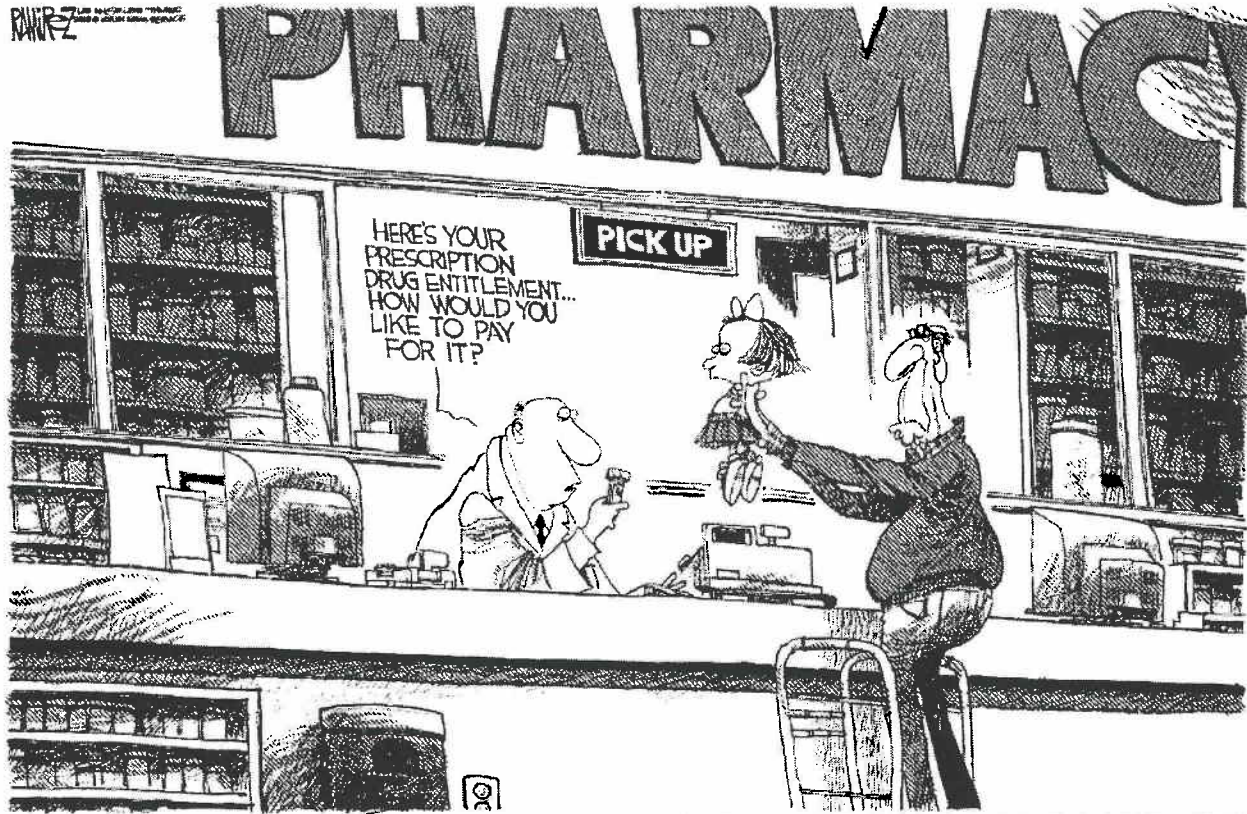


Illustration courtesy of Michael Ramirez and Copley News Service

Not Medicare patients, that's for sure.

Medicare Trustee Tom Saving estimates that the cost of the additional obligations in the Senate Medicare bill, such as the prescription drug benefit, is equivalent to a two-thirds increase in the \$3.8 trillion public debt.

That means the children and grandchildren of Medicare patients will pay for this open-ended entitlement in decades to come through higher taxes, lower salaries and lost dreams.

No generation, no matter how great, wants to leave that legacy behind.

For more information or to receive an e-mail version of "Medicare Maladies," contact medicaremaladies@heritage.org or call Heritage Media Services at (202) 675-1761.

("Medicare Maladies" is a regular feature, launched 7/14/03, from The Heritage Foundation. Sad to say, there's another malady coming your way tomorrow. Daily "maladies" are also available on heritage.org.)