

# Medicare Maladies

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

## MM #6: 21 Papers to Medicare “Reform”: Drop Dead

“Great politics. Lousy policy.”

That’s what the Sacramento Bee said about Medicare “reform” bills pending in Congress in a July 6 editorial—and it’s not alone.

Across the country, 20 other major newspapers also have expressed doubts about the bills, now being hammered into one version by a Capitol Hill committee.

“They’re going to cost a lot of money and ultimately disappoint seniors,” the Chicago Tribune wrote June 15. Its rival, the Chicago Sun-Times, declared a few days later: “...the solution to our health care crisis will not come from adding to the bureaucracy, but by introducing streamlined practices and new ways of thinking.”

Said the Kansas City Star: “It is easy to promise new government assistance. The hard part is figuring out how to pay for it.” Meanwhile, The Washington Post said the best thing to do with the bills is to go “back to the drawing board.” And New York’s Daily News advised readers to “consult your local Congress member before swallowing this whole.”

Not all the newspapers are conservative. Some are moderate, even liberal. In fact, their editorials sometimes disagreed on why the Medicare bills are flawed. But they can agree on this: These Medicare “reform” bills are a disaster and will cost taxpayers billions.

Read excerpts from the editorials online at [heritage.org](http://heritage.org) and see what major newspapers in your area are saying about these Medicare “reform” bills.

For more information or to receive an e-mail version of “Medicare Maladies,” contact [medicaremaladies@heritage.org](mailto: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](http://heritage.org).)