

AARP & THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT (IRA)

The AARP was IRA's #1 Cheerleader

- AARP was one of the biggest proponents of the IRA and its healthcare provisions, spending **\$60 million on advertisements** advocating for passage of Democrats wasteful spending bill

The AARP's Unholy Alliances with Big Health Insurers & Democrats

- AARP's unholy alliance with Democrats and big health insurers ensured politicians and big corporations ended up being the big winners of the IRA – not older Americans
- AARP is paid over a billion dollars a year in corporate royalties – three times more than what it earns in member dues – most of it from UnitedHealth, America's largest health insurance company
- AARP hosted **more than 90 pro-IRA and related events almost exclusively with Democrats** both before and after its passage to give them political cover in the last election, and doing much the same today
- AARP went all in for the IRA; They have been oddly quiet on other issues like PBM reform and Medicare overcharges that are important to seniors but potentially threatening to big insurers

Democrats & Big Health Insurers Win Under the AARP-Backed IRA While Seniors Lose

- With AARP's endorsement of the IRA, Democrats **diverted \$280 billion from the projected Medicare Rx savings for unrelated spending** for costly liberal handouts like electric vehicle and big insurer tax credits
- Under the IRA, big insurers got a windfall through new supersized **Obamacare subsidies and drug price controls** that lower their costs without any guarantees savings will be passed on to Medicare patients
- While Democrats and big insurers immediately benefited courtesy of Medicare, most IRA provisions that AARP and Democrats claimed would **lower drug prices for older Americans were delayed for 2-3 years**

Polling Reveals the Vast Majority of Older Americans, Including AARP's Members, View the IRA as a Failure & Question AARP's Advocacy

- **Around 80%** of older Americans **view the IRA as a failure** one year after the passage of the legislation
- **Above 80%** **believe the IRA has not directly helped** them personally in terms of lowering the impact of inflation, consumer costs, and prescription drug prices
- **More than 90%** **believe the IRA's Medicare drug savings** should first be applied toward reducing Medicare beneficiaries' drug costs instead of diverting funds toward unrelated spending
- **Nearly 90%** **believe AARP should not have supported the IRA** after discovering it diverted billions in Medicare drug savings to pay for unrelated tax breaks.
- **Roughly 75%** **believe the IRA turned out to be something different** than what supporters like AARP said it would be due to politicians prioritizing green energy tax breaks over measures to lower consumer prices
- **Close to 90%** are **concerned about AARP earning billions in royalties** over several years from UnitedHealth while lobbying on similar issues and programs like Medicare
- **Almost 80%** are **concerned about AARP's status as a non-partisan entity** in view of its events and petition drives on the IRA and drug pricing debates almost exclusively being focused on Democrats

COMMITMENT
to SENIORS

Forbes

"Once Again, Is AARP
Advocating For Older Americans
Or For Itself?" – 6/23/19

KHN

"AARP's Billion-Dollar Bounty" –
6/6/2022

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

"AARP's Interests Diverge
From its Members" – 8/29/19

WSJ | OPINION

"Whom Does AARP Serve?" –
8/4/2022

The Washington Times

"AARP, UnitedHealthcare, and
CVS Keep Prescription Drug
Prices Higher for Seniors" –
2/11/20