

COMMITMENT[✓]toSENIORS

November 14, 2023

Dear Members of Congress,

AARP's 2022 [990 form](#) confirmed its recent [audited financial statement](#), revealing that the "seniors advocacy organization" was paid more than \$1.1 billion via corporate royalties last year. Based on [historical analysis](#) and assumptions, most of those funds are likely attributable to a single company, Minnesota-based UnitedHealth Group (UHG). UHG is one of the nation's [largest](#) health insurance and pharmacy benefit management (PBM) corporations. Its vast subsidiary businesses also include primary and urgent care practices, home health services, specialty pharmacies, health IT companies and more.

AARP set records with corporate royalty payments exceeding \$1 billion in each of the last two years. Meanwhile, AARP saw a further decline in membership dues in 2022, similar to the previous year. These figures were released soon after the one-year anniversary of the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which made significant changes to the nation's Medicare program. Many critics continue to view the IRA as a potential windfall for big insurer-PBMs such as UnitedHealth Group, given new price control measures and unrelated insurance subsidies funded from the bill's projected Medicare drug savings.

As part of its [Commitment to Seniors](#) initiative, [American Commitment](#) has worked to highlight the AARP's financial conflict of interests with big health insurer-PBMs generally and UHG specifically. Recent examples include not only AARP's support and 60-million-dollar campaign to pass the highly politicized IRA, but also its reluctance to advocate visibly for bipartisan PBM and copay reforms to prevent big insurer-PBMs from pocketing rebates and discounts meant for Medicare patients. The IRA not only diverted billions in funds intended for Medicare to unrelated spending; it prioritized those special interest programs before most of the IRA's drug provisions were to be implemented for seniors in Medicare.

Congress has investigated AARP's business dealings before, and we urge it to do so again, as the problems associated with its conflict of interest have become far worse in size and scope. Seniors deserve a nonprofit organization that will fight for them, not one that fights to ensure its own financial success.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Phil Kerpen

President
American Commitment