

COMMITMENT[✓]to SENIORS

March 31, 2025

The Honorable Members of the United States Senate
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Members of the United States House of Representatives
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Honorable Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives:

I am writing to you today to bring your attention to a new American Commitment [report](#) conducted by the [Juniper Research Group](#) and a new [poll](#) conducted by [McLaughlin and Associates](#) highlighting serious concerns about AARP's financial entanglements with UnitedHealth Group and how it impacts the organization's policy positions and advocacy initiatives.

UnitedHealth Group is the nation's largest issuer of Medicare Advantage plans—most of which are AARP-branded—and this partnership, among others with AARP, has generated billions of dollars in revenue for the non-profit organization in recent years.

AARP is visibly engaged on some issues of concern to older Americans, such as the organization's campaign to pass the insurer-friendly Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Yet on many other issues—notably those requiring greater accountability from large health insurers and health services companies like UnitedHealth Group—AARP is largely silent. Recent examples include bipartisan insurer-PBM reforms, premium increases, allegations of insurer overcharges to Medicare, and using AI technologies to deny patient care.

Key findings from the report include:

- AARP collected **\$1.1 billion in corporate royalties in 2023**—nearly four times its member dues. These royalties now account for over 60% of its total revenue.
- AARP **member dues revenue fell by over \$2.5 million** in 2023, yet corporate royalty revenues grew by over \$24 million.
- AARP has received an **estimated \$9.9 billion in tax-free revenue from UnitedHealth** since 2007.
- In 2023 alone, AARP earned **nearly \$875 million** from UnitedHealth, a \$13 million from 2022.
- AARP backed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which **diverted over \$250 billion from Medicare to fund unrelated spending projects**, despite strong opposition to this law from over 75% of senior voters.
- Meanwhile, AARP has remained largely silent on issues such as bipartisan insurer-PBM reforms, rising premiums, Medicare overcharges, and denials.

Key findings from the poll include:

- **89% of voters 55+** are concerned that AARP is paid billions in corporate royalties from health insurers like UnitedHealth Group while simultaneously backing government healthcare programs like Medicare.
- **93% of voters 55+** are concerned that AARP continues to prioritize their financial relationship with UnitedHealth Group despite rising scrutiny and allegations of Medicare overcharges and denials.

- **84% of voters 55+** believe the billions in corporate royalties AARP is paid via UnitedHealth Group creates a conflict of interest that impacts their ability to advocate for its members.

[Commitment to Seniors](#), an [American Commitment](#) initiative, continues to shed light on AARP's true priorities, and these findings highlight how AARP may put corporate partners, like UnitedHealth Group, ahead of the seniors it claims to represent. Older Americans should be able to trust such a well-known advocacy organization, but AARP's multi-billion-dollar partnership with UnitedHealth Group makes you wonder where the organizations' priorities lie.

Congress has investigated AARP's business dealings in the past, and we strongly urge it to do so again, as the problems associated with its conflict of interest have become far worse in size and scope.

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

Sincerely,

Phil Kerpen
President, American Commitment