



Protect Medicare Supplement Rates for Seniors

Vote NO on Senate Bill 1181

Medicare Supplement insurance policies, also known as MediGap plans, provide coverage to help seniors afford out-of-pocket costs associated with medical visits and hospital stays. The process for obtaining these plans helps ensure that the plans remain affordable for seniors for years to come. Senate Bill 1181 changes this system and could increase rates by as much as 50 percent.

Oregon's system provides individuals the opportunity to purchase a MediGap plan for the first six months of eligibility at a standardized rate and with guaranteed issue. If a person chooses to wait, they are subject to medical underwriting as most often, people seek MediGap plans only after out-of-pocket costs begin to rise. By allowing individuals to purchase these plans as guaranteed issue every year, it will raise rates on all seniors, including those who enrolled in the current window. While it may create access for some, it will reduce access for others with current policies who will no longer be able to afford to keep their coverage.

Oregon's MediGap insurance system has been stable for many years. Other states who have adopted policies similar to SB 1181 have some of the highest Medicare Supplement rates in the country. We encourage the Legislature not to upend the existing market and to vote NO on SB 1181.

From the Desk of Senator Cedric Hayden

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