



ProtectSeniors.Org

Contact: Stu Miller/ Victoria Carman

212-685-4600 Or

SMiller@Butlerassociates.com or VCarman@butlerassociates.com

Statement from ProtectSeniors.Org on the Anniversary of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

For Immediate Release

“March 23rd marks the 2nd anniversary of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. Unfortunately, this law did nothing to protect the earned post-retirement healthcare benefits that tens of millions of Americans earned and received through their former employers, by accepting less in total compensation throughout their working years.

With the Supreme Court soon hearing arguments challenging the legality of the healthcare law, we urge Congress to act and pass legislation to protect what remains of critical retiree earned healthcare benefits in America. The bipartisan Earned Retiree Healthcare Benefits Protection Act (H.R. 1322) would prohibit employers from making cuts to post-retirement plans after an employee has retired.

In 2011, America’s baby boomers started turning age 65, and by 2030 more than 77 million will officially be 'seniors.' Too many companies have been cutting earned healthcare benefits (an estimated 22 million have already lost coverage) for retirees and if Congress were to pass H.R. 1322, employer sponsored health plans would stay intact and prevent another 14.3 million retirees from being dumped into the already overburdened Medicare system.

Once employers cancel these healthcare benefits, they are gone forever. Medicare is then left holding the bag as the only healthcare safety net for those 65 and older. America’s retirees have already paid for these benefits and it would be yet another backdoor bailout to companies to pass this cost onto the taxpayer. Passing H.R. 1322 into law will not cost the taxpayer anything and will save the Medicare system from having to pick up the tab.

Retiree benefits have been decimated over recent years and ProtectSeniors.Org and the millions of retirees we advocate for demand that retirees not be harmed yet again.”

###