

GINNY BROWN-WAITE
5TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 2, 2007

414 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1002

DISTRICT OFFICES:
20 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 200
BROOKSVILLE, FL 34601
(352) 799-8354
(866) GWAITE5

15000 CITRUS COUNTY DRIVE, UNIT 100
DADE CITY BUSINESS CENTER
DADE CITY, FL 33523
(352) 567-6707
(866) GWAITE5

Senator Bill Nelson
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Mel Martinez
356 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

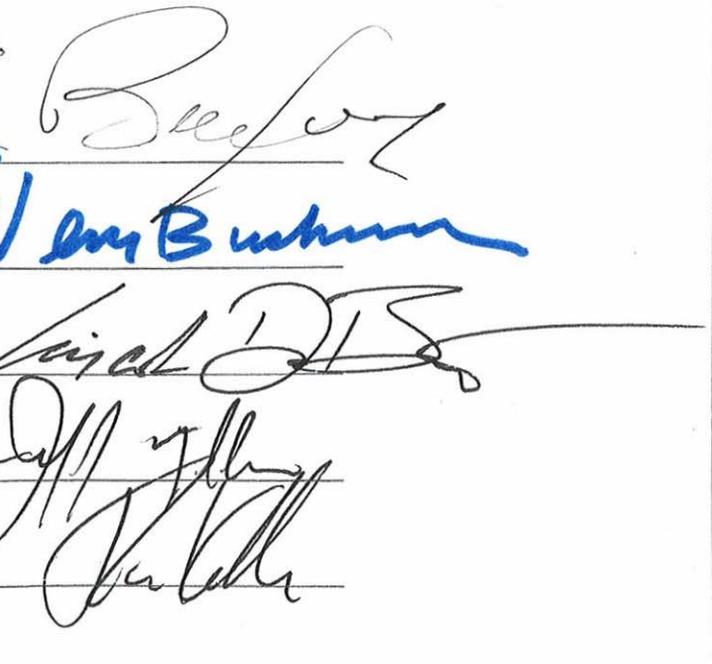
Dear Senators Nelson and Martinez:

We write today on behalf of the 693,000 senior citizens living in Florida who will lose their Medicare Advantage benefits if the House version of SCHIP reauthorization becomes law. As you know to fund their expansion of SCHIP, House Democrats proposed dramatically reducing Medicare Advantage and cutting many other services that our most vulnerable seniors need. This was done with no regard for seniors who rely on Medicare Advantage for their only access to health care benefits. Some of the specific cuts in this bill are a 43% cut to patients who rent life saving oxygen equipment, a \$7.2 billion cut for home health services, a \$6.5 billion cut for skilled nursing care facilities, and drastic cuts for rehabilitation to stroke victims. We are asking you to take a stand against the biggest raid on Medicare Trust Funds that seniors have ever seen.

There is a clear bipartisan majority to reauthorize and even expand SCHIP, but instead the House leadership chose a recklessly partisan approach that needlessly puts the whole program in jeopardy. While we expect that you need the freedom to negotiate a bipartisan solution, we are simply asking for a statement and for you to draw a line in the sand: no cuts to Medicare, and no raid on the Medicare Trust Fund.

Sincerely,


Ginny Brown-Waite
Cliff Sperry
Tom Feeney


Beefer
Van Buren
Jeff



Dan Wells



Anders Kurshu



Connie Mack

