TO: THE COALITION FOR AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

FR: MORNING CONSULT

DT: AUGUST 2020

RE: AMERICANS' OPINIONS ON THE ELIMINATION OF REBATES

IN MEDICARE PART D

## A majority of seniors say they are satisfied with their Medicare prescription drug coverage.

• 91% of seniors surveyed report they are *very* or *somewhat satisfied* with their Medicare Part D coverage.

An overwhelming majority of seniors report increased Medicare Part D premiums would hurt them financially.

• 85% of seniors said that increasing Medicare Part D premiums would have an impact on their personal financial situation.

Americans, especially seniors, express serious concerns about President Trump's actions to eliminate rebates in Medicare Part D and its potential to raise out-of-pocket costs and premiums for seniors.

- Three out of every four senior voters surveyed (75%) say they are very concerned about its potential to raise their out-of-pocket costs.
- More than 70% of senior voters worry that implementing the Rebate Rule to eliminate rebates in Part D could impact access to affordable health care.
- Nearly two-thirds of seniors (64%) also express significant concern that the government's own projections indicate that eliminating Medicare rebates could raise their Medicare Part D premiums by as much as 25%.

Voters are particularly concerned that eliminating rebates in Part D will cost seniors and taxpayers while providing a \$40 billion windfall to the pharmaceutical industry.

- A majority of seniors (71%) are concerned that while they could pay more, the pharmaceutical industry could receive as much as a \$40 billion increase in revenue as a result of eliminating rebates in Medicare Part D. A majority of registered voters (57%) are concerned about the same.
- 70% of all voters are concerned about the fact that implementing the Rebate Rule will cost the federal government and therefore taxpayers \$196 billion over a decade.

Twice as many voters oppose as support eliminating rebates in Medicare Part D. Once voters learned more, their concerns increased.

• Voters are twice as likely to oppose than support the Administration's action to implement the Rebate Rule and eliminate rebates in Medicare Part D (42% oppose vs 21% support).

Americans believe the Administration should consider the medical and financial hardships they are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic before making any decisions that could raise health care costs for seniors.

• The majority of voters (55%) and nearly two-thirds of seniors (65%) report that the Administration should be considering current medical and financial hardships resulting from the pandemic before taking action that could raise Medicare Part D premiums for seniors.



These results cover two separate polls conducted by Morning Consult on behalf of the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs. The first was conducted from July 29-30, 2020 among a national sample of 1,991 Registered Voters, and the second was conducted from July 31 to August 1, 2020 among a national sample of 500 Senior (65+) Registered Voters. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Registered Voters and a target sample of Senior Voters based on age, gender, educational attainment, race, and region. Results from the full surveys have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points for Registered Voters and plus or minus 4 percentage points for Senior Voters.

