

By: Representative Rose

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO DECLARE THAT THE ARKANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OPPOSE ANY EFFORT BY PRESIDENT BIDEN AND THE UNITED
STATES CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE COST OF TRICARE FOR
LIFE BENEFITS FOR RECIPIENTS OF THESE BENEFITS.

Subtitle

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REPRESENTATIVES OPPOSE ANY EFFORT BY
PRESIDENT BIDEN AND THE UNITED STATES
CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE COST OF TRICARE
FOR LIFE BENEFITS FOR RECIPIENTS OF THESE
BENEFITS.

WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life is a health insurance program provided by the federal government to active duty and retired military personnel and their family members; and

WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life typically covers Medicare cost-sharing deductibles, coinsurances, and copayments; and

WHEREAS, TRICARE for Life may pay when services are not covered by Medicare or when a beneficiary has used up the Medicare benefits; and

WHEREAS, currently TRICARE for Life beneficiaries are not required to pay an enrollment fee; and

WHEREAS, A biennial report from the Congressional Budget Office takes aim at TRICARE for Life offering two (2) proposals among its options to cut



the deficit that would significantly increase costs for seniors using the TRICARE for Life benefit; and

WHEREAS, under the proposals, the enrollment fees would be indexed to grow at the same rate as average Medicare costs in later years,

WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office acknowledges these plans would discourage retirees from using their earned health care benefit and an enrollment fee would result in some beneficiaries foregoing TRICARE for Life and switching to other Medicare supplemental plans; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office notes the out-of-pocket cost plan would reduce Medicare spending because higher costs would lead beneficiaries to use fewer medical services, even though seniors in the military health system already have slightly lower health care utilization than their civilian counterparts,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives oppose any effort by President Biden and the United State Congress to increase the cost of TRICARE for Life benefits for the recipients of these benefits.