

June 18, 2024

Via Electronic Delivery

Senate Republican Conference United States Senate 405 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Members of the Senate Republican Conference:

I am writing on behalf of the <u>Coalition Against Socialized Medicine (CASM)</u> to inform you of AARP's concerning multi-billion dollar financial alliance with UnitedHealth Group (UHG), the nation's largest health insurance and services corporation, and its negative impact on our healthcare system and older constituents in your states.

AARP has received an estimated \$9 billion via its partnership with UnitedHealth on AARP-branded Medicare and related policies. UnitedHealth, which could soon become the world's first trillion-dollar healthcare company, is a massive conglomerate with pharmacy benefit managers (PBM), hospitals, home health services, physician groups, and even a bank under its umbrella. UnitedHealth controls much of the U.S. healthcare system – so much so that a recent ransomware attack on its subsidiary Change Healthcare impacted a "substantial proportion" of Americans – yet liberal politicians in Washington seem content with that.

Ironically, despite the organization's touted mission to advocate for seniors, AARP spent millions of dollars lobbying for the passage of President Biden's "Inflation Reduction Act," which diverted \$280 billion in Medicare savings funds toward Leftist priorities like EV tax credits and subsidies for big-insurer PBMs like UnitedHealth. AARP also hosted more than 90 pro-IRA events, with almost exclusively Democrats in support of the disastrous bill.

Many agree that AARP has sold out on its policy objectives for a bottom-line-boosting partnership with big insurers and the progressive Left.

As Senator Paul <u>wrote</u> back in October, the AARP cannot effectively advocate for America's seniors while maintaining its bond with the nation's largest health insurer. Republicans have an opportunity to crack open and dissolve this "<u>unholy alliance</u>" that puts liberal politicians and their policies ahead of aging patients.

I urge the Senate Republican Conference to examine AARP's relationship with UnitedHealth and question the organization on how this alliance impacts their policy positions, primarily its silence on PBM pricing reforms for Medicare, which could directly lower drug prices for America's seniors.

Sincerely.

Andrew Langer
Executive Director

Coalition Against Socialized Medicine (CASM)