

COALITION AGAINST SOCIALIZED MEDICINE POLICY CATALOGUE

2025

The Coalition Against Socialized Medicine (CASM) is a group of like-minded organizations that oppose government encroachment into our healthcare sector and legislative and policy proposals that undermine the free market and bring our nation closer to socialized medicine. Below is a list of which policies CASM supports—those that will help restore competition to healthcare for the betterment of patients and taxpayers—and which our organization opposes.

Policies CASM Supports:

- **Market-Oriented Healthcare Solutions**

- All healthcare policies should rely on market forces that drive prices down and deliver optimal goods and services for patients.

- **Protection of Healthcare Innovation**

- A thriving innovation ecosystem should be at the forefront of all healthcare policies. Any attempt to weaken intellectual property rights or impose price caps will destroy the free-market incentives that spur development and are antithetical to our capitalist system.

- **Reforming Anticompetitive Big Insurer-PBMs**

- With the failure to popularize the “Medicare for All” agenda, Democrats have shifted their efforts to a backdoor approach to controlling healthcare. By entering into financial and political partnerships with big insurer-PBM middlemen, Democrats exert influence over the healthcare market through often indirect and pernicious means.
- PBMs have too much power over pricing and formularies, and breaking up their monopoly is essential to restoring competition and reducing prices.

- **Protection of Intellectual Property Rights that Deliver New Developments to Market**

- Any government actions taken to limit our nation’s fundamental intellectual property protections, which are the main drivers of innovation, is a direct attack on our free market.

- **Increased Supply of Healthcare Professionals**

- Policymakers must recognize that we already have a crisis in America with regard to the supply of doctors, nurses, and physician assistants. This problem has been exacerbated by vertically integrated health insurance monopolies, which is having a negative effect on access to healthcare professionals, especially in rural areas. We must immediately take steps to use market-based principles to solve this problem, both in increasing this supply and in fixing the underlying policies that accelerate this decline.

Policies CASM Opposes:

- **Centralized Government-Run Healthcare**
 - This is the worst-case scenario: a full-scale implementation of socialized medicine.
- **Government Price-Setting/Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)**
 - Government-mandated price controls, which Democrats have popularized recently under the guise of Medicare drug price “negotiations” included in the misnamed Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), are a hallmark of socialized medicine. History shows that price controls lead to shortages and reduced innovation.
 - The IRA siphoned more than a quarter trillion dollars out of Medicare to fund liberal spending priorities such as the Green New Deal and subsidies for big insurer-PBMs.
- **“Most Favored Nation” (MFN) Policy**
 - MFN would set drug prices to match those in other countries that have socialized medical systems. In doing this, MFN would effectively import socialist price controls. Importing socialist price controls means importing socialist values along with them. This policy must be rejected by any conservative, free-market thinkers in favor of pro-trade, pro-competition, and pro-transparency tactics.
- **Elimination of Private Insurance, or “Medicare for All”**
 - While this nomenclature may sound more palatable than “socialism,” “Medicare for All” would place all Americans under a government-run, single-payer system.
- **Consolidation of Big Insurer-PBMs & AARP’s Lucrative Deal with UnitedHealth Group**
 - Democrats in Congress have formed an alliance with the giant health insurer-PBMs that dominate our healthcare system. In return for financial and political support, Democrats give these consolidated, vertically integrated giants cover from antitrust scrutiny, while Americans face skyrocketing premiums.
 - This alliance is also bolstered by AARP, which has received billions from UnitedHealth Group, the nation’s largest health insurer-PBM. Ironically, AARP spent over \$60 million advocating for the passage of Democrats’ IRA, which raided Medicare and provided a financial windfall to big insurer-PBMs. Meanwhile, AARP has remained eerily quiet on healthcare measures seniors support to address healthcare costs, including bipartisan PBM reform. It appears AARP sold out on its mission to protect older Americans and has instead prioritized its bottom line. CASM is staunchly opposed to this shady partnership.
- **Government Seizure of Intellectual Property**
 - Intellectual property rights, like patents, are the driving force behind innovation in our capitalist economy. For medical developments, innovators need hope that they will be able to recoup a return on their investment of their time, energy, and funds in the lifesaving treatments they work to create. Any efforts to remove this incentive directly harm the innovation landscape.
 - For example, like any infringement on personal property rights, efforts to distort the Bayh-Dole Act to seize certain drug patents will remove innovation incentives and set a dangerous precedent for government encroachment into the free market.