

**To: Interested Parties**

**From: Leslie Dach and Brad Woodhouse, Protect Our Care**

**RE: Polls Find Widespread Bipartisan Support for Key Provisions In House Democrats' Landmark Drug Bill**

**Date: Friday, December 6, 2019**

Recent polling from the Kaiser Family Foundation, Hart Research Associates on behalf of Protect Our Care, AARP, YouGov/Data for Progress, and the Center for American Progress shows that key provisions of the "Lower Drug Costs Now Act" (H.R. 3), the landmark bill introduced by House Democrats to drastically lower prescription drug costs and expand Medicare services for older Americans, has widespread support among Americans across the political spectrum.

**October 2019 Kaiser Family Foundation Poll Found That About 9 In 10 Americans (88 Percent) Support Allowing The Federal Government To Negotiate Drug Prices For Medicare Beneficiaries.** [Kaiser Family Foundation, [10/17/19](#)]

- **92 percent of Democrats, 90 percent of Independents, and 85 percent of Republicans** support allowing the federal government to negotiate with drug companies to get lower prices for people with Medicare.
- **85 percent** support allowing the government to negotiate for lower drug prices for Medicare and private insurance
- **81 percent** support placing an annual limit on out-of-pocket costs for seniors enrolled in Medicare Part D plans
- **76 percent** support allowing Medicare to place limits on how much drug companies can increase the price of drugs based on annual inflation rates
- **72 percent** support increasing taxes on drug companies that refuse to negotiate the price of medications with the federal government
- **62 percent** support lowering what Medicare spends on some drugs based on amounts in other countries where governments more closely control prices

**November 2019 Hart Research Poll Found That Nearly 8 In 10 Americans Support Giving Medicare The Power To Negotiate For Lower Drug Prices For All Consumers.** [Protect Our Care, [11/6/19](#)]

- **77 percent of Americans**, including 75% of Independents and 59% of Republicans, support giving Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices for all consumers.
- **77 percent of Americans**, including 72% Independents and 66% Republicans, support Democrats' proposal to use the savings Medicare would achieve by negotiating for lower drug prices to provide vision, dental and hearing benefits for seniors.
- **71 percent of Americans**, including 68% of Independents and 54% of Republicans, support the H.R. 3 provision to give Medicare the power to negotiate directly for lower drug prices.

- **97 percent of Americans**, including near universal support from Independents (98%) and Republicans (96%), support the H.R. 3 provision preventing drug companies from charging Americans more for the same drug than they charge people in other countries.

**March 2019 Polling From AARP Found That Medicare Negotiation Was Popular For 50+ Voters Across The Political Spectrum.** [AARP, [3/12/19](#)]

- **95% of Independents, 93% of Republicans and 90% of Democrats** said they support allowing Medicare to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices.

**November 2019 YouGov/Data For Progress Poll Found That Democrats Have A Political Advantage When Running On Medicare Negotiation.** [Data For Progress, [November 2019](#)]

- In a generic ballot for Congress, the Democratic candidate leads by four points (45-41), but if the race is between a Democrat who supports letting Medicare negotiate and a Republican who does not, **the race grows to a 14 point Democratic advantage (50-36).**

**December 2019 Center For American Progress Poll Found That Strong Majorities Of Voters Across Party Lines Back Specific Policy Proposals To Curb Prescription Drug Costs.** [Center for American Progress, [12/5/19](#)]

- **81 percent** support penalizing pharmaceutical companies if the prices of their prescription drugs increase faster than overall inflation.
- **79 percent** support placing an out-of-pocket limit on the cost of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries

**Bottom line:** The key provisions of H.R. 3 have overwhelming bipartisan support from a strong majority of Republican, Independent and Democratic voters who want these reforms to lower their drug prices. The only thing partisan about this bill is Congressional Republicans' decision to side with big drug and insurance companies over the American people. Giving Medicare the power to negotiate for lower drug prices and ensuring drug companies aren't charging Americans more than they charge people in other countries for the same drug are not only popular, but the most effective measures to lower costs and level the playing field for Americans.