Driving Down Health Care Costs for Wisconsinites

Last year, President Biden and Democrats in Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act, which drives down health care costs for families across Wisconsin. Between lowering premium costs by \$1,487 on average, capping insulin costs, and stopping drug companies' egregious price hikes, the new legislation is already working for the Wisconsinites. Soon, seniors' drug costs will be capped at \$2,000 annually, and Medicare will finally be able to negotiate lower drug prices — no thanks to Republican lawmakers who unanimously voted to maintain the status quo and keep health care costs high.

Democrats are working tirelessly to rein in drug companies' greed and stop seniors from getting ripped off. This summer, the Biden administration is implementing the Inflation Reduction Act and also taking action to eliminate <u>surprise medical bills</u> and <u>limit junk insurance</u> plans that do not need to cover people with pre-existing conditions like asthma, cancer, and diabetes.

Wisconsinites depend on quality and affordable health care to live healthy fulfilled lives, and the Inflation Reduction Act takes a huge step in lowering these costs. Over <u>49 million</u> Americans each year alone could now potentially see their prescription costs reduced through Medicare's new negotiating power. Even when faced with united opposition from drug companies and Congressional Republicans, Joe Biden and Democratic lawmakers delivered for America and delivered for Wisconsin.

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, Wisconsinites will finally begin to see relief when it comes to their health care costs.

By The Numbers:

298,750 Wisconsinites <u>will save</u> an average of \$475 every year thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act's \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cost cap, effective in 2025.

31,935 Wisconsinites on Medicare who use insulin are now charged no more than \$35 per month for an insulin prescription.

181,848 Wisconsinites are saving an average of \$531 on monthly health insurance premiums.

935,961 of Wisconsin's seniors are able to receive the shingles vaccination and other recommended vaccinations <u>free of cost</u>.

985,531 of Wisconsin's Medicaid beneficiaries will have access to expanded vaccine coverage.

<u>Senator Tammy Baldwin Is Standing Up For Wisconsinites' Care</u>. Senator Baldwin has a long history of not just fighting for better health care but winning. In late 2022 she was able to deliver over <u>\$13 million</u> to rural hospitals in Wisconsin to improve health access in rural communities. In 2023 alone she introduced, led a <u>coalition</u>, and <u>reintroduced</u> multiple pieces of

legislation which would collectively be able to hold drug companies accountable while <u>lowering</u> costs for millions of Wisconsinites.

State Republicans Continue to Sabotage Efforts to Expand Medicaid. Republican legislators have shot down any proposals to adopt Medicaid expansion in the state, making it one of only two Midwest states to have not yet adopted the program. Nearly 126,000 people in Wisconsin would be eligible for coverage under Medicaid expansion, but whether it was the 2021 session where Republicans quickly rejected a special session to discuss expanding Medicaid, or the 2023 session where those same Republicans tossed out Democratic Governor Tony Evers' budget plan to expand Medicaid, it is clear that the economic and health benefits matter less to these state Republicans than pulling the party line.