



CONGRESSWOMAN LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD



IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT MEDICARE'S NEW DRUG PLAN

March 2006

Dear Friend:

In November, I sent you information about the new Medicare prescription drug benefit that started January 1. Since then, many Medicare beneficiaries have experienced difficulties signing up for the program.

While no one should feel pressured into making a quick decision, beneficiaries need to be aware of the **May 15** deadline to sign up. After that, the earliest date to enroll is November 15, at which time seniors will be subject to a minimum seven percent penalty in their monthly premiums. For seniors who sign up even later, the penalty increases by an additional 1 percent each month. The higher premiums remain in place for the entire duration of the person's enrollment in the program.

I voted against this law based on the firm belief that the drug program is insufficient, far too complicated and designed to benefit special interests more than the seniors it is intended to help. While I will continue to work to improve the existing law and do all I can to protect and improve the Medicare program, I want you to know about the resources available to help you make a decision that is right for you.

I hope you find this information useful.

Sincerely,

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

CLIP AND SAVE THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Organizations that can help:

- The Center for Health Care Rights in Los Angeles: 1-800-824-0780

- Medicare: 1-800-MEDICARE (633-4227)
- Social Security Administration: 1-800-772-1213

Informational web sites:

- Medicare: www.medicare.gov
- Social Security: www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp
- HICAP: www.calmedicare.org



CONGRESSWOMAN LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

Los Angeles Office

255 E. Temple Street, #1860
Los Angeles • California • 90012
Telephone: (213) 628-9230

Washington, DC Office

2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC • 20515
Telephone: (202) 225-1766

www.house.gov/roybal-allard

Public Document
Official Business

M.C.

PRESORTED STANDARD

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

CONSTITUENT OFFICE HOURS

In addition to regular business hours at the Los Angeles office (Mon. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., T-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.), the congresswoman's caseworkers are available to provide individual assistance to you and your family at the following locations:

1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

East Los Angeles

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Salazar Park Senior Center
3864 E. Whittier Boulevard

Bell Gardens

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Bell Gardens City Hall
7100 S. Garfield Avenue

3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

Huntington Park

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Huntington Park City Hall
6550 Miles Avenue

Commerce

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Commerce City Hall
2535 Commerce Way

2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Downey

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Barbara Riley Community Center
7810 Quill Drive

Maywood

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Maywood City Hall
4319 E. Slauson Avenue

4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Boyle Heights

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Lucille Beserra Roybal Center
2130 E. First St., Suite 300

Cudahy

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Cudahy City Hall
5220 Santa Ana Street

2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

(Please call the congresswoman's Los Angeles office for hours.)

Bell

Bell Community Center
6250 Pine Avenue

Bellflower

Bellflower City Hall
16600 Civic Center Drive

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 15, 2006

Last day to enroll in a Medicare drug plan without incurring a 1 percent per month premium surcharge and last day to enroll to receive any benefits in 2006.

November 15, 2006

The open enrollment period for Medicare Drug Benefit (Part D) begins for 2007. This is also the first opportunity for those who enrolled in a Medicare drug plan for 2006 to switch plans if they wish.



**Para información en español,
llame a mi oficina al (213) 628-9230**