

# RetireSafe

**Standing Up For America's Seniors!**

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April 25, 2011

The Honorable Phil Roe, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-4201

Dear Representative Roe:

On behalf of the more than 400,000 older Americans that RetireSafe represents nationwide, I want to express both our deepest thanks and our strongest endorsement for H.R. 452, your bill to repeal the provisions of the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" (PPACA) that establish the infamous Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB). IPAB is essentially a rationing board for Medicare, one exempted from the normal legislative and regulatory checks and balances. It is designed to cut spending and benefits to reach a specific savings target, based on a flawed inflation formula. Clearly this ill-conceived IPAB collection of bureaucrats will come between physicians and their patients to lower the quality of care under Medicare. Your legislation, H.R. 452, the "Medicare Decisions Accountability Act," will save millions of lives from the insidious attack of IPAB.

By its design, IPAB will be in a position to effectively restrict Medicare patient's access to needed treatments, all in its quest to achieve its recognized mission of cost-cutting. IPAB is virtually exempt from Congressional action that could ameliorate its edicts, thus leaving Medicare beneficiaries unprotected and without recourse. This must change, and H.R. 452 will make that needed change, repealing the IPAB rationing board and reasserting the Constitutional powers of Congress.

Adding to the clear and present dangers of IPAB, President Obama has already expressed his desire to make this unaccountable body even stronger, allowing it to force major benefit cuts on Medicare patients and providers, all without any meaningful Congressional advice and consent. Rather than be made stronger, the IPAB provisions of PPACA must be repealed before patients are harmed.

For these reasons, RetireSafe strongly endorses H.R. 452 and urges all of your House colleagues to work with you to enact it into law. This outstanding bipartisan legislation deserves their utmost support. Thank you again for your leadership in introducing this critical measure, so important to millions of American seniors, now and in the future.

Sincerely,



Thair Phillips  
President  
RetireSafe