



June 30th, 2022 - Issue #19

WELCOME

Happy Summer!

We are busy monitoring so many different issues that are beginning to gain traction as the mid-term election approaches.

- The possibility of some revised version of Build Back Better or Reconciliation is looming.
- What type of impact will it have on drug pricing or out-of-pocket caps?
- Can the government reign in the economy?
- What about issues that deeply impact our families high fuel prices or shortage of baby formula?

While all of these issues are very important, we remain focused on any legislation that would impact America's seniors. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me at mark@retiresafe.org.

Mark Gibbons President/CEO RetireSafe

Fourth of July Shout Out!

We know you're getting ready to celebrate the big fourth of July with your parents, grandparents, and senior family members. It's the perfect time to get the conversation going when it comes to their future and current plans for their lives. Happy Fourth of July!

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Current Issues and Important Topics

<u>Older American's Act</u> - This is an article of support for the Older American's Act. Within the article, the author highlights key information about fully funding the Older American's Act.

Fully Fund the Older Americans Act (OAA) (naco.org)

<u>HIPAA</u> - This article talks about what HIPPA is. The Healthcare Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, also known as HIPAA, is in place to protect your medical records and your privacy.

HIPAA Explained (hipaajournal.com)

<u>COLA</u> - The current form of calculating the cost-of-living adjustments for social security among seniors is outdated and needs to be re-adjusted. The Bureau of Labor Statistics uses the CPI-W to calculate these adjustments. However, the CPI-E is the more effective method to produce official estimates for the rate of inflation experienced by the elderly.

The CPI-E: A Better Option for Calculating Social Security COLAs - NCPSSM

Medicare - Biden Hikes Medicare Prices, Funnels Profits to Insurers (levernews.com)

Vaccinations - This article talks about how vital it is for seniors to get their vaccinations to prevent common diseases that older adults are prone to such as shingles and the flu which often leads to pneumonia. Vaccines are usually talked about for children but never for seniors which decreases the incentive for them to get it.

National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (nfid.org)

<u>LGBTQ+ Veterans</u> - This article talks about helping veterans who are in the LGBTQ+ community and how we can help them navigate through life. Providing links to things like patient care, benefits, and discharge upgrades. They also highlight things like LGBTQ+ veterans who are making a change as well as those who are living open and healthy lives.

Recognizing LGBTQ+ Veterans During Pride Month | Veterans Affairs (va.gov)

<u>Telehealth</u> - This article explains what telehealth is, how to apply, clinical specialties that may use telemedicine, some types of illnesses that can be treated by telemedicine, some pros along with the cons, and so much more.

Telehealth And Seniors - AgingInPlace.org

<u>Mental Illness</u> - The stigma around mental illness prevents people from seeking professional help. Become part of the solution by seeking help or bringing awareness to resources for others. Check out this article for more information and a few helpful resources at the bottom!

LetsTalkStigma.org