



## **CARA Alert – August 14, 2019**

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

***Happy 84<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Social Security***

### **Register for CARA's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

**Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Sacramento Masonic Center  
1123 J Street, Sacramento**

**Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>: 10am - 5pm** (Retiree of the Year Award dinner at 6pm)

**Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>: 8:30am -12 noon**



You don't want to miss this event. We have great speakers, workshops, entertainment and more planned. A block of hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn at I and 16<sup>th</sup> Sts. has been reserved for CARA folks – you must reserve your room yourself (information on invitation). Space is limited. ***Register today- click here!***

### **National Democratic Seniors Coordinating Council**

**Meeting in San Francisco on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**10am- 12pm/ Hilton SF – Union Square – 333 O'Farrell St., SF**

The National Democratic Seniors Coordinating Council, an official body of the Democratic National Committee, will be meeting in conjunction with the summer meeting of the DNC in San Francisco. Speakers at this year's meeting include our very own Rich Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance for Retired Americans, Jon "Bowzer" Bauman from Sha Na Na and Max Richtman, President of the National Committee to Preserve Medicare and Social Security. Several members of Congress are also expected to attend. ***If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Hene Kelly, CARA's legislative director, at 415-533-5244 or email her at [henekelly@aol.com](mailto:henekelly@aol.com).***

### **Lower Drug Prices NOW Campaign**

**Campaign Kick Off – Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

**Federal Building, 7<sup>th</sup> and Mission Streets, San Francisco**

No matter where people live, what they look like or what's in their wallets, at some point everyone is going to get sick and need prescription medicine to feel better. Whether it's a sore throat, high blood pressure or cancer, everyone deserves affordable medicine we all need for healthy lives.

But today, drug corporations and their powerful Pharma lobbyists are standing in the way of our health and economic security by dramatically jacking up prices to boost profits, forcing people to make stark choices between medicine and other basic necessities, go without treatment, to go into debt or watch loved ones suffer.

It's time to fix this broken system. That's why on **August 20th**, organizations, advocates and patients around the country are coming together to demand that lawmakers take serious action to lower drug prices. CARA is spearheading this effort in California – in front of Speaker Pelosi's office in San Francisco. **Please join us on Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> for a press conference at 10:30am at the SF Federal building/ 7<sup>th</sup> and Mission Streets, in SF(1 block south of Civic Center BART).**

## **TRUMP ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO PUBLIC CHARGE RULE**

(From Justice in Aging)

The Trump Administration has finalized extensive and draconian changes to [the public charge rule](#) that would vastly expand reasons for the denial of admission or lawful permanent resident status to immigrants. These changes are part of a larger, cruel effort on the part of the Administration to codify racism into policy and use immigration law to tear apart families, including those of low-income older adults.

The changes would make it much harder for low-income older adults to enter the country or successfully apply for their green card by dramatically expanding the categories of public benefits that can be considered in determining whether an individual is likely to become a public charge. The final rule includes all Medicaid programs, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and cash assistance, housing assistance, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as public benefits to be considered, and retains age, limited English proficiency, and medical conditions, including an individual's disabilities, as negative factors in the totality of the circumstances test for public charge.

The final rule is scheduled to go into effect on October 15, 2019. In the near future, CARA and our partners will provide more detailed analysis of the contents of the final rule and its effects on low-income seniors. In the meantime, stay put, don't change any benefits you are receiving, and stay calm. We will fight this horrible rule change!

### **You can contact CARA at:**

CARA, 600 Grand Ave. #410, Oakland, CA 94610

NORTH: 510-663-4086 or 415-550-0828 / [jreid.cara@gmail.com](mailto:jreid.cara@gmail.com)

CENTRAL VALLEY: 714-488-5488/ [Vishnu.cara@gmail.com](mailto:Vishnu.cara@gmail.com)

SOUTH:

LA COUNTY: 917-424-3220/ [jennichang.cara@gmail.com](mailto:jennichang.cara@gmail.com)

[ORANGE/SAN DIEGO: 714-460-3542/ smeyer.cara@gmail.com](mailto:smeyer.cara@gmail.com)

[OTHER SOUTHERN CA COUNTIES: 714-488-5488/ Vishnu.cara@gmail.com](mailto:Vishnu.cara@gmail.com)

**TOLLFREE 1-877-223-6107 / www.californiaalliance.org**

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