



Adopted April 29, 2014

Resolution Medicare Turns 50

Whereas Medicare is the nation's largest and most successful health insurance system serving the health needs of almost 50 million older and disabled Americans; and

Whereas Medicare has been the most financially efficient health care system in the United States with administrative costs averaging only 2 percent of program outlays; and

Whereas the idea for universal old age health insurance under the Social Security Act was a key component of the 1960 Kennedy for President campaign; and

Whereas President John F. Kennedy gave an impassioned speech for universal old age health insurance at a rally sponsored by the National Council of Senior Citizens at Madison Square Garden, New York City on May 20, 1962; and

Whereas President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Medicare Act into law on July 30, 1965 at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri; and

Whereas July 30, 2015 will mark the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Medicare Act.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans launches the “Medicare Turns 50” national campaign to celebrate the success of the Medicare program; and

Be it further resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans will educate and mobilize its members and the American public on the merits and successes of the Medicare program throughout 2014 and 2015.