Drug Prices

Dear Editor:

Prescription drug prices just keep going up and retirees like me need relief.

The average person on Medicare pays $5,000 per year in out of pocket medical expenses, including prescriptions. One in five older Americans say they have not taken one of the prescriptions their doctor advised due to cost.

It should not be this way. Americans pay the highest prices for prescription drugs in the world. Pharmaceutical corporations are spending millions to lobby on Capitol Hill and defeat any legislation to lower prices. Even during the pandemic, drug corporations are making enormous profits by charging the federal government for vaccines and treatments that our tax dollars paid to develop.

President Biden wants to require Medicare to negotiate lower prices with the drug corporations the way Medicaid and the Veterans Administration do. Congress should pass legislation and make this happen without delay.

Seniors can’t wait.

Sincerely,
COVID-19

February 2021

The pandemic has hit older Americans hard. More than 80% of people who have died from this horrible disease were over the age of 65, and until every American has been vaccinated the risk will remain high.

This is a crisis but Republicans in Congress seem content to sit back and wait for it to become worse. We need to do everything possible to accelerate the production of vaccines, and then get those vaccines to the people who need them. This is a massive undertaking, and Congress needs to help President Biden get more Americans vaccinated faster.

I urge Rep/Senator INSERT NAME to set partisanship aside and put the needs of their constituents first.

Sincerely,