

Town Hall Questions by IndivisibleShasta

A Town Hall is your chance to tell Congressman LaMalfa how you feel about issues important to you and to ask him questions about his positions. Personalize your question with your own concerns and perspectives. Insist on your full allotted minute to speak your question or comment.

Here are questions that are being asked of Members of Congress at Town Halls all over the country. We hope they will help you to formulate your own question so that all District 1 constituents can learn Congressman LaMalfa's positions on these critical issues

1. Would you, if asked, give President Trump authorization to expand the war in Syria?

Followup or alternate question if your main question has already been asked:

- a. Do you support President Trump asking Congress before engaging in more aggressive military actions?
- b. Do you support sending more US troops to Syria?
- c. President Trump, within a week changed his position on whether Assad should remain in power. What is your position?

2. As part of Republican Tax reform, are you going to stand up for your hardworking tax paying constituents by supporting HR305 the Presidential Tax Transparency Act to get President Trump to show HIS returns?

Followup or alternate question if your main question has already been asked:

- a. I'm concerned that President Trump's foreign business dealings could open him up to blackmail or undue pressure from countries we have complicated relationships with, like Russia, Turkey and some Middle Eastern countries. If we could see President Trump's tax returns we'd know who he has had business ties with. Will you support HR 305 to help us find out?
- b. It is easy to say you support the Presidential Tax Transparency Act because it is languishing in the Ways and Means committee and without Republican support will never reach the floor. Will you commit to signing the Discharge petition to get it out of committee so that you can vote yes on HR 305?

3. Everyday more details are coming out about possible collusion between the Russians and the Trump campaign. The House Intelligence Committee investigation is a mess. Will you commit to supporting a full independent investigation and co-sponsor the Protecting Our Democracy Act (H.R.356)

Followup or alternate question if your main question has already been asked:

a. I want to hear outrage from you about the idea that the Russians may have interfered in our elections and further that the Trump campaign may have somehow been involved. Please tell me how you feel about this and exactly what you are going to do about it. No talking points please. Pretend that the election was won by Hillary and HER campaign was possibly implicated. Then, tell me how you feel.

Tips on town hall questions from The Indivisible Guide.

- Your job isn't to convince your MoC - it's to make him or her give you an answer...or make it clear to all watching that they refuse to answer.
- Be a storyteller. Be honest, be vulnerable, and tell stories that matter.
- Make a concrete, verifiable ask. Phrase questions that are answered with a yes or a no, and that can be followed up by looking at the MoC's future actions.
- Don't settle for talking points. MoCs love to fall back on canned responses. Don't let them. Insist that they engage with your humanity and answer your REAL questions.
- Know your own strengths. If you do not choose to ask a question, know that your presence at a town hall is vitally important as you support others in the room.

IndivisibleShasta is Mt. Shasta's local Indivisible group. Please follow us on Facebook and check out our website, IndivisibleShasta.org. We are one of many Indivisible groups in District 1. To find a group near you, go to indivisibleguide.com/act-locally/.



Protect, Improve and Expand Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security 2017 Talking Points

Americans value the security health care coverage and Social Security provides. No one campaigned or voted on the idea of destroying Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, and putting all Americans' health and income security at risk. Despite this, Speaker Paul Ryan and Rep. Tom Price, Donald Trump's pick to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, are preparing legislation now to cut and turn Medicare into a voucher system, drastically cut Medicaid, and privatize Social Security.

Congress and the President should keep their hands off Our Medicare!

- Do Not Raise the Medicare Eligibility Age.
- Raising the age from 65 to 67 would deny 5 million seniors insurance starting in 2020. By 65, most people have health conditions that will make buying private insurance prohibitively expensive and difficult to get.

Do Not Replace Guaranteed Medicare Benefits with a Voucher.

- Ryan and Price want to replace your Medicare card with a limited voucher to purchase traditional Medicare or insurance in the private marketplace. There is no guarantee that the value of these vouchers will increase with inflation increasing the amount of money seniors have to spend on health care.

No Changes to Medigap or Supplemental Insurance.

- Eliminating first-dollar deductible coverage or limiting the amount of health care costs that Medigap can cover will not bring down health care costs. It will shift costs from insurance corporations to beneficiaries.
- Limiting Medigap coverage will penalize those who can least afford it -- the oldest, sickest and chronically ill.

Reject Schemes to Shift Medicare costs to Seniors.

- Combining Medicare Part A and B deductibles will increase the yearly deductible for beneficiaries who don't go to the hospital.
- A single deductible will increase hospital copays from at least 10% to 20%.

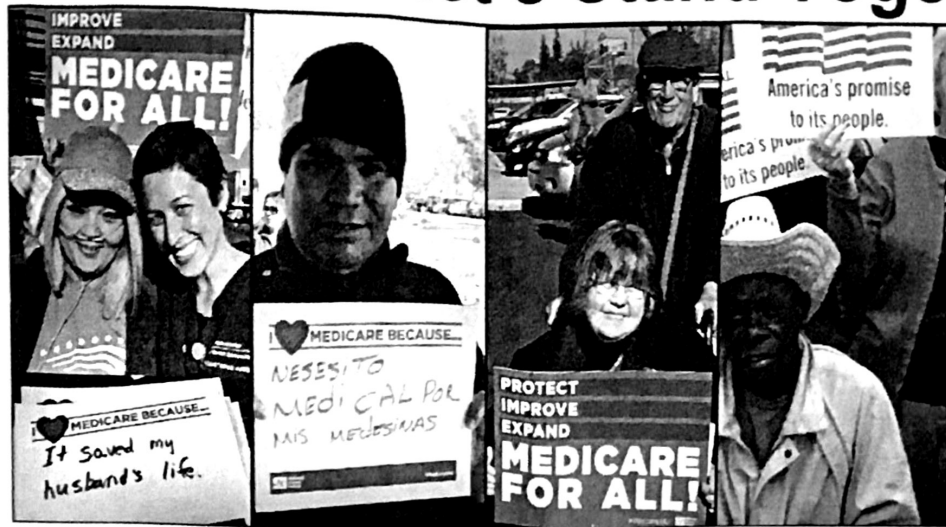
Congress and the President Should Keep Their Hands off Our Medicaid!

Medicaid covers 62% of all long term care costs in the U.S. Slashing funding to states by one-third as proposed by Ryan/Price will harm seniors and people with disabilities who rely on the program for home health, nursing home and other care. Ryan/Price will also make dramatic cuts to Medicaid (MediCAL in California), the health care safety net for low income women, children, seniors and people with disabilities. States will be forced to cut programs, raise taxes or both.

Congress and the President Should Keep Their Hands off Our Social Security!

For years, the Republicans (and some Dems too) have looked for ways to cut and privatize Social Security by raising the retirement age, limiting benefits, and creating Individual Retirement Accounts, putting our earned benefit in the hands of Wall Street. We must demand that programs we have earned and paid for, like Medicare and Social Security, be protected, improved and expanded – not cut or privatized. Join CARA to stand up for these essential programs and FIGHT BACK.

Age and Youth: Let's Stand Together!



Save Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security!

Congress, and the President, are considering drastic changes to America's most popular and effective social insurance programs. Despite President Trump's repeated promises during the campaign not to cut Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, Republican Congressional leaders and the President's nominee for Secretary of Health and Human Services are advocating major cuts to all three programs. These GOP proposals would cut and block grant Medicaid to States, raise the eligibility age, cap, voucherize, and privatize Medicare through health savings accounts, and turn Social Security into private retirement accounts managed by Wall Street. The fight for Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid is a fight for our future. Let's fight together!

These programs are worth fighting for, particularly for future generations!

Did you know that Congressman LaMalfa has continually voted to cut and privatize these programs? Even though there are more than 177,561 Social Security beneficiaries and almost 116,020 Medicare beneficiaries in his district, he has not listened to our concerns about protecting and improving this program, or Medicare and Medicaid.

These programs are here for us, and they will be there for you, if we fight for them. They are not broken!

Call/Fax Congressman LaMalfa today. Here are his numbers:

California Phone: 530-223-5898
California FAX: 530-223-5897
Washington DC Phone: 202-225-3076

You can also call your U.S. Senators – Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris and ask them to stand strong against cuts or privatization of Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid. Use the toll free switchboard number in Washington: 866-828-4162 and ask for the Senator by name. Thank you.

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