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CrS Report for Congress: President Bush s Proposed Medicare-Endorsed Drug Discount Card Initiative: Status and Issues: October 8, 2002 - RL313

By Angeles Villarreal

Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.On July 12, 2001, President Bush announced a Medicare-endorsed prescription drug discount card program to help seniors lower their out-of-pocket drug costs. The President stated that the discount card program would be an interim measure until a broader Medicare prescription drug benefit for seniors can be created. Many seniors do not have adequate prescription drug coverage. In 1998, an estimated 10 million elderly people, or 27 of Medicare beneficiaries, did not have any form of prescription drug coverage. The Administration planned to implement the card program in January 2002, but it was put on hold because of a federal court order. Pharmacy groups successfully filed a lawsuit against CMS in 2001, asking a federal court to issue an injunction that would halt the card program on the grounds that the Administration had no statutory authority to establish the program. The Administration proceeded with plans to modify the program and use a formal rulemaking process for a new proposal. On March 6, 2002, CMS issued a proposed rule for the card program with a 60-day comment period. On August...



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