March 5, 2018

The Honorable Seema Verma Administrator

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Department of Health & Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: Comments Regarding 2019 Proposed Changes to Medicare Advantage

Dear Administrator Verma,

As a chronically ill senior, I am against any changes to Medicare Advantage Retiree Plans which may impact the affordability and quality of care I receive through Medicare Advantage. I was able to receive my Medicare Advantage Retiree Plan through my husband who retired from the Los Angeles City Fire Department.

I’ve been enrolled in a Kaiser Permanente Plan for a little more than 10 years now. It is quite good, and I am happy with the coverage and benefits I receive. This plan is vital to my health. Kaiser has helped manage my chronic diseases and prescription drugs to stay as healthy as possible. Thanks to my plan, I also have access to wellness programs in my community.

We live under a fixed income and any changes to our plan will affect us badly. Policymakers should reconsider making any changes that will harm over 4 million Americans who depend on Medicare Advantage Retiree Plans to survive.

Sincerely, Kathi Aker

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