

More on AARP's Response to Supreme Court Ruling on the Affordable Care Act

June 29, 2012

AARP is pleased that the Supreme Court found the critically important provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are constitutional. This landmark legislation is already improving the health and financial security of our members and all Americans. AARP supported this law because it helps many Medicare recipients avoid financially burdensome increases in prescription drug costs by closing the Medicare prescription drug coverage gap, or "doughnut hole." The ACA also expands the number of people eligible for free preventive and wellness benefits, and cracks down on Medicare fraud, waste and abuse. Finally, the ACA will be instrumental in eliminating discriminatory health insurance practices such as exclusions based on pre-existing conditions, and in limiting the use of age rating to charge exorbitant premiums for older Americans before they become eligible for Medicare.

We know that our more than 37 million members and Americans generally, want to know how these provisions affect them now and moving forward. That is why we developed the AARP Health Law Guide (www.aarp.org/healthlawguide) and other resources to help Americans understand their benefits now and in the future.

"We are pleased that the Supreme Court affirmed the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act," said AARP CEO A. Barry Rand. "We look forward to the continued implementation of this critically important legislation so that millions of Americans can continue to receive the benefits it provides. AARP will continue to be a source of information and support as Americans navigate the benefits of the law."

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Over the next few days and weeks Office of Volunteer Support (OVS) will post new resources on the Volunteer Portal so please be sure to periodically check back on the site. One new document we've just posted is the attached *Background Points about the ACA Decision* which was designed with volunteers in mind. You'll also find a *Where AARP Stands* article on the Portal with a bit more in-depth information about the impact of the decision on various segments of our population.

Please contact the OVS Volunteer Helpline (volunteer@arp.org or 1-866-740-7719) with any questions about Portal registration or navigation.