

WHO GETS WHAT

Starting in Spring 2004

▪ Discount Card

- Membership fee \$30
- Estimated 10% - 25% discount

Starting in 2006

Deductible

\$250 / year

Premiums

Estimated \$ 35 / month or \$420 / year

Coverage

You pay 25% of drug costs up to \$2,250

Coverage Gap-- You pay ALL drug costs

- from \$2,251 to \$5,100
- \$2,850 gap PLUS \$35 premium

Catastrophic

Medicare pays 95% of drug costs over \$5,100

Effect on South Dakotans

▪ Skimpy Benefit

- **Almost 25% of South Dakotans stuck in the coverage gap**
- **Almost 20% will not break-even**
- **Restrictions on Medicaid assistance for low-income**

▪ Lose Employer Benefits

- **21,000 have employer benefits**
- **5,000 at risk of losing it**

▪ Rural Seniors Lose

- **Unequal benefits**
- **You could lose your doctor**
- **Limited traditional Medicare plan guarantee**

SPECIAL INTERESTS

- **\$12 Billion to Insurance Companies**
 - So private plans cost less than Medicare
 - Unlevel playing field for traditional Medicare

DRUG COSTS

- **Nothing to get a grip on drug costs**

We Can Do Better

1. Close Coverage Gap

- **Take giveaways to special interests and use for seniors**

Let Medicare Negotiate Drug Cost

- **VA negotiates drug costs**
 - **Good deal for taxpayer**
 - **Good deal for veterans**

Allow REAL Drug Reimportation

- **Fair prices for U.S. seniors**

Protect Current Coverage

- **So employers don't drop retirees**