



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BISHOP TO HOST KINGS PARK MEDICARE TOWN HALL AND PRESS CONFERENCE

As May 15 Part D Deadline Looms, Seniors Still Need Help with Complex Program

KINGS PARK, NY - Congressman Tim Bishop announced today that he will host a Medicare Part D Town Hall to help seniors understand the often confusing new prescription drug program. The event will be held at the Kings Park Fire Department located at 2 Main Street, Kings Park, New York on Thursday, April 20 at 10:00 AM. Bishop will be joined by Smithtown Councilwoman Pat Biancaniello. Representatives from the Social Security Administration, Medicare, and New York State's EPIC program will be on hand to answer any questions seniors may have.

Immediately prior to the forum, Bishop will hold a press conference to discuss his ongoing efforts to help seniors sign up for the program before the May 15 deadline. He will also discuss last-minute efforts in Congress to pass the Medicare Informed Choice Act, which will extend the deadline by six months to allow seniors to make better choices. Bishop has held over one hundred town halls meetings since his election to Congress, but has increased the number recently because of the difficulty seniors are having understanding the new prescription drug program. Although Bishop voted against the benefit, he believes it is now important to help educate seniors while continuing to change the program for the future.

Those who do not choose a plan by May 15 and do not enjoy comparable coverage, will be subject to a one percent per month lifetime surcharge on the basic premium for each month after the deadline they fail to register. For example, were a senior to enroll 15 months past May 15, the recipient would pay an additional 15% lifetime 'tax' on his or her premium.

The press conference will begin at 10:00 AM with the town hall meeting immediately following.

WHAT: Congressman Tim Bishop hosts Medicare prescription drug town hall meeting and press conference.

WHO: Congressman Tim Bishop, Smithtown Councilwoman Pat Biancaniello, and representatives of Medicare, Social Security, and EPIC.

WHERE: Kings Park Fire Department
2 Main Street, Kings Park

WHEN: Thursday, April 20 at 10:00 AM.

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