

I voted Yes on H.R. 2576, to modify the calculation of modified adjusted gross income for purposes of determining eligibility for certain healthcare-related programs.

The President's health care law expanded eligibility for Medicaid and Premium Supports by changing the way Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) is determined. The key change exempted non-taxable Social Security and pension benefits from the definition of "income." However, these benefits remain in the MAGI for every other social safety net program including food stamps and heating assistance. This change under the new health care law means a couple earning \$64,000 annually could qualify for Medicaid and other government subsidies.

H.R. 2576 would reverse the change made in the President's health care law so that the income formulas remain consistent across all social safety net programs. This will ensure that Medicaid does not become so bloated that it reaches insolvency even sooner than expected and ensure that our limited government resources are being used to provide the greatest impact on those with the greatest needs. Importantly, this legislation would decrease deficits by approximately \$13 billion over the next ten years and President Obama supports this bill.