MEDICARE PROVISIONS IN RECONCILIATION

ISSUE	POSITION
Home Health Reallocation	**Support immediate transfer** since gains 2 years of Trust Fund solvency **Fallback**: None; if have to accept, use Senate (House has technical prob.)
High-Income Premium	**Support if:** Administered through Treasury (not on the tax form), income thresholds are indexed, and phases out at 75% of costs. **Fallback**: Accept 100% phase out; change thresholds
Private Fee-For-Service Plans	**Oppose** because allows balance billing, risk segmentation **Fallback**: Add balance billing and premium protections
Private Physician Contracting	**Oppose** because it allows physicians to say that they will only treat beneficiaries if they agree to pay the full amount with no Medicare payment. **Fallback**: Require beneficiaries to sign an attestation to raise awareness.
MSAs	**Support if:** Limit to 100,000 or below; adopts Senate's use of Kassebaum-Kennedy cost sharing structure; time limited. **Fallback**: 250,000; nationwide; longer time
Medicare Commission	**Support if:** Even numbers; outside experts; President chooses chair; super majority; non-binding; report in 1999; uses Admin Actuaries not CBO. **Fallback**: No super majority; jointly chosen chair.
GME/DSH Carve Out	**Support** carving payments out of managed care payments assure that these facilities receive these funds. **Oppose excluding DSH.** **Fallback**: Study and then carve out if deemed necessary.
DSH Cut	**Oppose** since these hospitals serve a critical need in their communities **Fallback**: No compromise
Hospital transfer	**Support** transfers policy for all post-acute care settings. **Fallback**: Transfers for SNF only.
Prudent Purchasing	**Support including:** Senate's competitive bidding demonstration and inherent reasonableness; House's centers of excellence. **Fallback**: Demo w/ trigger for broader authority; 20% inherent reasonableness; no compromise on centers on excellence
Mammography	**Oppose cost sharing.** Waive the deductible & coinsurance in all settings. **Fallback**: Waive all cost sharing only for screening mammography.
Medigap	**Support Senate's** open enrollment for disabled beneficiaries & trial period for managed care enrollees. **Fallback**: Conference with guaranteed issue for disabled.
Office of Competition	**Oppose inclusion** **Fallback:** No compromise

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