

RISE Delaware™ Update: Danger Ahead for Federal Retiree Benefits and April 5, 2025 Hands Off! Events

This is a message to inform you about national organizations and local events mobilizing around the budget cuts that are occurring to many federal programs. RISE Delaware won the battle against Medicare Advantage for many state service retirees in Delaware, but we have increasingly become aware that we might have won a battle but are in danger of losing a larger national war on retiree benefits.

I was on a call with people from the National Alliance for Senior Health Care last week. Robby Stern, from the Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action (<https://www.psara.org/>) reported on a meeting that their group, which has been in the fight in the State of Washington to prevent Medicare Advantage from being foisted on public service retirees, had with Alex Lawson, Executive Director of Social Security Works. In addition to highlighting the draconian cuts to the Social Security Administration's staff and services, Lawson also pointed out several proposals being floated, and advocated by Mehmet Oz, now head of CMS.

Mehmet Oz has long advocated for Medicare Advantage (and has financial holdings in United Healthcare) and Lawson reported that one of the recommendations from Project 2025—to require all new enrollees to Medicare to be forced in to Medicare Advantage is favored by Oz. There are no details as to how these folks will be able to opt out if they want a Supplemental Plan. In addition, a proposal is being floated that will allow a pilot project to force all Medicare enrollees who have a supplemental plan into Medicare Advantage to compare costs. The draconian cuts proposed to Medicaid will also affect retirees who must use both Medicare and Medicaid because of their health issues. We have a lot to lose if we do not make our voices heard both individually and collectively. RISE has tried to keep our focus on State of Delaware issues but the RISE Board thinks that we cannot ignore the national fights ahead of us. So, expect to hear more about what we can do regarding national issues around Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security.

There are **Hands Off!** rallies and marches being planned all over the country for April 5. I have run into a number of subscribers to this email list over the past week or two and know that many folks are planning to attend these events. The information below was shared with us by Sallie from Indivisible Newark. Thanks, Sallie!

- **Washington, DC:** 302 United bus has already filled-up, but please travel to DC on your own, if possible. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/764186/>.
- **Newark:** Join the Indivisible Newark First State protest at 1:00 p.m. at the corner of E. Main St. and S. College Ave. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/766510/>.

RISE Delaware™ Update: Danger Ahead for Federal Retiree Benefits and April 5, 2025 Hands Off! Events

- **Dover:** Join our friends with Indivisible Central Delaware (and 50501-DE) for their protest in Dover - Legislative Mall, noon – 2 p.m. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/768615/>.
- **Philadelphia:** Join Indivisible Philadelphia and others for a noon rally that starts at City Hall and marches to Independence Mall. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/764183/>.
- **Rehoboth:**
 - 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.: Join Indivisible Southern Delaware on Route 1 between Royal Farms and Old Landing Road for a Sign Wave Protest.
 - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.: Join 50501 Movement outside the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. For more info: <https://events.pol-rev.com/events/c80cb325-c57a-4d4b-a330-2d3695feaa76>,
 - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.: Join Indivisible Southern Delaware at the Rehoboth Beach Bandstand for a Sign Wave Rally.

Many thanks for reading,

Lisa Diller

=====

RISE Delaware: Retirees Investing in Social Equity Delaware

P.O. Box 7262

Newark, DE, 19714

United States

Elisa Diller, President

You received this email because you signed up for our messages.

Please do not respond to this email message. Email: risedelaware@gmail.com

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/rise-delaware-round-2-legal-and-other-costs>

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557317635829>

Our Web site: www.risede.com

Checks may be made payable to: RISE Delaware

Address: RISE Delaware, P.O. Box 7262, Newark, DE 19714

Public Meeting Calendar: State of Delaware

<https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/#/>

[Unsubscribe](#)