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[Date]

Current event article discussion (Government 2305)

Trump Administration has been taking various initiatives in multiple fields since the Trump Government came into effect. A recent action that has been taken in this respect is the introduction of a new proposal in the sector of health care. The proposal states to increase the cost of brand-name prescription drugs when there are cheaper alternatives available. The article was published in the New York Times, with the title “Trump Proposals Could Increase Health Costs for Consumers” and explained that the proposal is expected to be published in the Federal Register this week and will be applicable to the health insurance plans being run under Affordable Care Act (Pear).

The proposal suggests that the consumer’s co-payment amount, for a specific brand name drug will not be considered while calculating the total amount of cost-sharing at the year-end. Instead of this, consumers will be bound to spend more of their own money before the annual limit for the out-of-pocket money is reached. This step has incited protests from the insurance that have been representing patients as it will bring more money out of the pockets of the consumers in the form of increased prices of some expensive prescription drugs.

This proposal might be beneficial for a limited number of patients or consumers who have been fighting with a particular disease or other consumers who are the regular buyers of a specific medicine. On the other hand, this proposal will be a reason to raise the cost of health care for the majority of the consumers, the economists comment.

Alternatively, the Trump Administration holds the stance that it is a friendly policy for both the physician and the drug manufacturers. Whether this proposal will be a relief for the consumers of the Affordable Care Act in the long term or will increase the problems for the general public, only time will tell.

Works Cited

Pear, Robert. "Trump Proposals Could Increase Health Costs for Consumers." The New York Times 21 January 2019.