

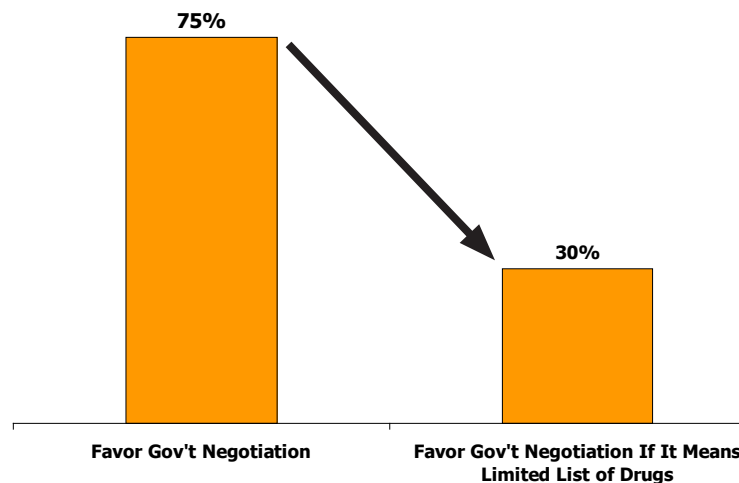


BY THE NUMBERS

FROM THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
202-456-2921

Americans Sour On Government Negotiation Of Drug Prices When They Learn Details

- ◆ **Government negotiation of Medicare prescription drug prices wins strong support in the abstract.** This weekend, the *Washington Post* reported according to a new Kaiser Foundation survey (11/9 to 11/19), "the overwhelming majority of Americans favor allowing the government to negotiate prescription drug prices for the Medicare program." Eighty-five percent (85%) said they supported government negotiation in the survey.
- ◆ **But support drops precipitously when voters learn about trade-offs.** According to a recent Dutko Research survey (11/17 to 11/20), support drops by more than half—from 75% to 30%—once voters learn that government negotiation would mean only being able to choose from a list of government-approved drugs. And fewer than a quarter of seniors 65 and older, 21%, still support government negotiation after they hear about its effects.



- ◆ **And the Kaiser Poll also showed that the Medicare prescription drug benefit remains popular.** Fifty-one percent (51%) of Americans and 53% of seniors say the Medicare drug benefit is working well today, including even 49% of Democrats and 49% of independents.