

RHETORIC V. WILSON'S RECORD ON MEDICARE

RHETORIC	REALITY
<p>Wilson: "I was critical of some of the roll out of Medicare" Prescriptions drug plan.</p>	<p><i>Wilson refuses to stand up to the Bush administration. She works for big pharmaceutical interests not New Mexicans. Her only constituency is the million dollar health care industry who pads her campaign pockets. She votes for them, not New Mexicans. Where was Wilson when the pharmaceutical industry passed a bill giving themselves billions of dollars and increasing the cost of drugs for seniors? Where was Wilson when the Bush administration pushed through legislation big oil and sending the price of gas to record highs in New Mexico?</i></p> <p>WILSON, ENSURING BIG PROFITS FOR DRUG COMPANIES, BIG COSTS FOR SENIORS:</p> <p>2000: Wilson Elected Due To Special Interest Drug Money. During her 2000 campaign for Congress, Citizens for Better Medicare, which is funded by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, ran ads in New Mexico supporting Wilson, spending at least \$565,000 on behalf of Wilson in the Albuquerque TV market. [Associated Press, 11/5/00]</p> <p>2003: Wilson Voted For Medicare Plan That Gave Drug Companies \$139 BILLION And Increases The Cost Of Drugs For Seniors: In 2003, Wilson voted for a prescription drug plan that pushed seniors into HMOs, had no limits on premiums, and contained a massive gap in coverage that would cost many seniors thousands. That same plan gave pharmaceutical companies</p>

\$139 BILLION in profits. Clearly, the Bush-Cheney-Wilson administration cares more about big corporations than the average consumers. [HR 1, Vote #332, 6/27/03, Alan Sanger, Boston University School of Public Health, 10/31/03]

2003: Wilson Voted Against Negotiating For Lower Drug Prices For New Mexicans. In 2003, Wilson voted against allowing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate lower drug prices with pharmaceutical companies. The Secretary would have the authority to use the purchasing power of the federal government to negotiate contracts with manufacturers in order to ensure that enrollees in the new Medicare prescription drug benefit paid the lowest possible price. Drug manufacturers lobbied heavily against drug re-importation and price negotiations in part because of the lower consumer costs it would bring. [H.R. 1, Vote # 668, 11/21/03]