

WASHINGTON , Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) joined House Democrats in signing

"In order to fight the skyrocketing drug prices, we must allow Medicare to use its considerable bargaining

The discharge petition, led by Rep. Darlene Hooley (D-Ore.), seeks to bring H.R. 376 to the floor for a vote

The Medicare drug law that the Republican-controlled Congress passed in 2003 did nothing to bring down

"This is a giveaway to the big drug companies that must be taken back," Olver said. "States, Fortune 500

Olver noted that the Department of Veterans' Affairs has been successful in obtaining significant discounts

"If Medicare had similar negotiating authority, it could achieve similar savings for seniors," Olver said. "

To view the discharge petition, go to

<http://clerk.house.gov/109/lrc/pd/petitions/Dis1.htm>.

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