Dear Editor-

I urge Senators XXX and XXX and Representative XXX to stand up for seniors’ choice and co-sponsor S. 1044/H.R. 1939, the Ensuring Seniors Access to Local Pharmacies Act. This bill would expand pharmacy choice for Medicare Part D beneficiaries by giving seniors more access to discounted copays for prescription drugs at their pharmacy of choice and thereby encouraging greater competition in the Medicare program.

Currently, health insurance bureaucrats force many beneficiaries to choose between traveling 20 miles or more to reach a drug plans “preferred pharmacy” or paying higher costs. This legislation would allow pharmacies that may be more conveniently located to the beneficiary or their caregiver, to offer the same preferred pricing, including co-pays. In any case, the choice should be left to seniors and not dictated by insurance middlemen.

I urge readers to contact these legislators and urge them to support S. 1044/H.R 1939 to provide needed choices to senior citizens.