



111 Warren Road, Suite 7A
Cockeysville, MD 21030
Office: (443) 608-0866
www.unitedwematter.com

Together We Can!

May 15, 2021

In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly eliminated prescription drug coverage for Medicare Eligible State Retirees (all retirees who are disabled or 65 and older). These retirees were informed in June of 2018. A private citizen, Ken Fitch, created a Facebook group to compel lawmakers to hold a special session to repeal this law. When that was not successful, he persuaded two attorneys to investigate whether a legal challenge could be mounted to stop the enforcement of the law. In September 2018, a Class Action Complaint requesting Declaratory Relief was filed. An injunction was awarded in October allowing approximately 48,000 to 90,000 continued access to the Maryland Prescription Drug Program during the pendency of the case. This injunction has been in place almost four years.

Ken Fitch then created United We Matter to have the tools to fight challenges to State retirees benefits or pension. For the last three years Ken Fitch has ensured that a bill to reinstate the Prescription Drug Coverage for State Retirees was submitted to the Maryland House and/or the Maryland Senate. In 2021, HB 1335 sponsored by Delegate Carl Jackson was submitted. Unfortunately, Delegate Jackson pulled the bill before consideration. All these bills sought repeal of the elimination and reinstatement of the benefit earned by State retirees during their employment. These setbacks have not stopped Ken Fitch, who has already received commitments that at least 2 bills will be submitted in the 2022 session.

United We Matter has become the driving force in this fight since it is through their efforts, financial and otherwise that we are able to maintain the meeting, rallies, signs, and advertisements around the State. On May 13, 2021, a sidewalk rally was held at the district office of Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. A lawn chair rally is scheduled for June 9, 2021.

In addition, United We Matter has started a Petition drive to get 200,000 signatures to request the Maryland General Assembly reinstate prescription drug coverage for disabled and elderly State Retirees. Due to the ongoing litigation, this Petition drive has the potential to benefit 90,000 State Retirees. United We Matter will have a booth at the Maryland State Fair to gather more signatures for the Petition. We need your help. We have two petitions, one for Marylanders and one for people who support our cause across the country and around the world. You can electronically sign a petition by going to www.unitedwematter.com. PDF copies are available upon request.

All these efforts are to show Maryland that WE MATTER and United we will make a difference. Come to a Rally, Help us with our Petition Drive. Join United We Matter. We would love to see you at the Rally on June 9, 2021.

For more information about the Rally or the Petition, please contact, Ken Fitch (443) 608-0866, email KenFitch@unitedwematter.com or submit a question at www.unitedwematter.com.

Donations for UWM:

United We Matter

111 Warren Road, Suite 7A

Cockeysville, MD 21030

In Memo Line: United We Matter Donation

Donations for Legal Costs

Law Office of Deborah Hill

P.O. Box 465

Cockeysville, MD 21030

In Memo Line: RX Drug Coverage

Please send a check or money order for all donations.

Ken Fitch

President