President Biden’s lower cost prescription drug law, the Inflation Reduction Act, contains policies that lower prescription drug costs for seniors and people with disabilities across North Carolina:

- Caps costs for covered insulin at $35 per month for people with Medicare
- Makes recommended vaccines available at no cost for people with Medicare Part D
- Enables Medicare to negotiate prices for certain prescription drugs
- Requires drug companies to pay a rebate to Medicare if they raise prices faster than the rate of inflation

In January 2024, two new cost-saving Medicare Part D benefits went into effect:

- The Extra Help program is expanding to provide more benefits for qualifying enrollees with limited income and assets
- Some enrollees now have their out-of-pocket drug costs capped at about $3,500 in 2024, and in 2025, out-of-pocket costs will be lowered even more with a $2,000 cap

Inflation Reduction Act Impact: North Carolina by the Numbers

- **50,000+** Medicare enrollees in North Carolina who use insulin could have an average savings of $449 per year
- **1.7 MILLION** Medicare Part D enrollees in North Carolina can receive free recommended preventive vaccines
- **$132 MILLION+** expected savings for ~542,000 Medicare Part D enrollees in North Carolina, thanks to 2024 policies limiting Part D out-of-pocket costs

More Than 300,000 Medicare enrollees in North Carolina take drugs selected for negotiation including:

- **172,000+** take Eliquis or Xarelto, cardiovascular drugs to prevent blood clots
- **95,000+** take Type 2 Diabetes medications Jardiance, Januvia, or Farxiga
- **17,000+** take Entresto to treat heart failure or other cardiovascular conditions