

Table 1. Comparison of Recent Medigap Proposals and Recommendations

Date Introduced	Proposal Authors	Medigap Provision
April 29, 2013	Brookings Institution, Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform	Would require Medigap plans to have an actuarially-equivalent co-pay of at least 10 percent.
April 18, 2013	Bipartisan Policy Center	Would require Medigap plans to include a deductible of at least \$250, cover no more than 50 percent of beneficiaries' copayments and coinsurance, and provide an out-of-pocket limit no lower than \$2,500, beginning in 2016.
April 10, 2013	President's FY2014 Budget	Would introduce a surcharge on Part B premiums that would be equivalent to about 15 percent of the average Medigap premium for new beneficiaries that purchase Medigap policies with "particularly low cost-sharing requirements," beginning in 2017. Current beneficiaries, and individuals who become eligible for Medicare prior to 2017, would not be subject to the premium surcharge.
February 26, 2013	Brookings Institution, The Hamilton Project ²⁴	Would apply an excise tax of up to 45 percent on Medigap plan premiums.
February 19, 2013	Erskine Bowles and Former Sen. Alan Simpson	Would prohibit Medigap and TRICARE for Life plans from covering the Medicare deductible and no more than 50 percent of the base coinsurance, up to the initial limit; in the interim, would apply a surcharge to the Part B premium of Medigap plans.
January 24, 2013	Sen. Orrin Hatch	Would limit Medigap plans from providing first-dollar coverage for cost-sharing.
December 17, 2012	Joseph Antos	Would change Medigap plans so that policyholders are sensitive to the cost of their medical care. Would modify rules to require insurers to offer Medigap coverage whenever beneficiaries apply for it.
December 12, 2012	Sen. Bob Corker, S. 3673	Would require the NAIC to review and revise the Medigap benefit packages to allow for revised benefit packages to be implemented by January 1, 2015. Revised plans would be prohibited from covering the unified deductible and more than 50 percent of the cost-sharing after the unified deductible. Medigap policies could not be issued after December 31, 2016 to beneficiaries who previously were not covered by a Medigap policy.
November 13, 2012	Center for American Progress	Would prohibit Medigap plans from covering the first \$500 of beneficiaries' cost-sharing for beneficiaries with incomes above 400 percent of the federal poverty level, with exemptions for primary care and care for chronic disease.
June 2012	Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC)	Recommended applying a surcharge on Medigap plans and other supplemental insurance.
March 15, 2012	Sens. Rand Paul, Lindsey Graham, Mike Lee, and Jim DeMint	Would prohibit all Medigap policies as of January 1, 2014.
February 16, 2012	Sens. Richard Burr and Tom Coburn	Would prohibit Medigap plans from covering the first \$500 of beneficiaries' cost-sharing and limit coverage above \$500 to 50 percent of the next \$5,000 of Medicare cost-sharing.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicare and the Federal Budget: Comparison of Medicare Provisions in Recent Federal Debt and Deficit Reduction Proposals," October 2013.