

HMP -- OH-13 – T02
“Harder” :30
TV: 30
9/26/24 -- FINAL

Visual	Audio	Backup
<p>Mix of senior grandparent couple to camera, going about their day – on a walk, looking at grandkid photos, paying bills, watching TV, mixed with b-roll of Coughlin</p> <p>Super: Dan Elizabeth Canton, Ohio</p> <p>Super: Kevin Coughlin Forcing Cuts To Seniors’ Social Security</p>	<p>Senior Woman: These are the good days.</p> <p>Senior Man: <i>We’ve paid into Social Security and Medicare our whole lives.</i></p> <p>Senior Woman: But Kevin Coughlin wants to make it harder, saying he’d make drastic changes to Social Security.</p> <p>Senior Man: Cutting our benefits!</p> <p>Senior Woman: Coughlin even called to raise the Medicare eligibility age and pushed to make Medicare a voucher system, which would cost us nearly seven thousand dollars a year.</p> <p>Senior Man: Folks can’t afford that!</p> <p>Senior Woman: Coughlin is just not for us.</p>	<p>Kevin Coughlin “has made several comments on the campaign trail that suggest he believes privatizing or cutting Social Security would be the best path forward for the program,” including earlier in 2024, when he said that current levels of Social Security and Medicare meant “it’s going to go broke very, very quickly,” and that “the benefits that people get are going to be cut.”</p> <p>“In Ohio’s 13th Congressional District, Republican congressional candidate Kevin Coughlin has made several comments on the campaign trail that suggest he believes privatizing or cutting Social Security would be the best path forward for the program [...] Such remarks aren’t isolated. During the Republican primary in early 2024, Coughlin alluded to the need to slash spending on Social Security and Medicaid in the event that either benefit becomes insolvent. ‘Anyone with eyes and an honest heart can understand that when half of your budget is being spent on Medicaid and Social Security and it’s going to go broke very, very quickly, which isn’t going to mean that they’re going to go away, but it’s going to mean that the benefits that people get are going to be cut,’ Coughlin said at the Ohio Christian Alliance Candidate Forum in February. Additionally, Coughlin has advocated ‘converting Medicare into a voucher program for anyone under 55’ and increasing the ‘eligibility age to 67.’” (Heartland Signal, 06/07/24)</p> <p>Privatizing Social Security “requires scaling back past liabilities – by cutting benefits – or increasing contributions from current workers.”</p> <p>“Any transition to a private system must overcome a major financial hurdle, however. Social Security has accumulated trillions of dollars in liabilities to workers who are already retired or who will retire soon. To make room for a new private system, policymakers must find funds to pay for</p>

<p>Super: Kevin Coughlin Supported Making Medicare A Voucher System // Ohio Seniors Pay Thousands</p>	<p>Senior Woman: LCV Victory Fund is responsible for the content of this advertising.</p>	<p>these liabilities while still leaving young workers enough money to deposit in new private accounts. This requires scaling back past liabilities – by cutting benefits – or increasing contributions from current workers.” (Brookings Institute, 03/01/97)</p> <p>During his campaign for the Ohio 13th Congressional District seat, Kevin Coughlin “committed to pursuing entitlement reform if he’s elected,” saying “there’s got to be real adult conversations about these things, and proposals put forward with binding votes for Congress to vote on.”</p>
<p>Super: Kevin Coughlin Not For Us</p>		<p>“During the primary campaign, Kevin Coughlin — now the Republican nominee for Ohio’s 13th Congressional District — committed to pursuing entitlement reform if he’s elected. ‘And I know the Democrats are cheering right now that they’re hearing me say that,’ Coughlin said. He argued ‘anyone with eyes and an honest heart’ can understand the simple math problem — money is going out the door faster than it’s getting replaced. He specifically referenced Social Security and Medicaid, which provides health care for people with lower incomes. But Medicare, which provides health care for seniors and some people with disabilities, is typically included in debates about entitlement reform. Recent projections from the U.S. Treasury indicate the Social Security and Medicare trust funds will become insolvent in 2034 and 2031 respectively. ‘(They’re) going to go broke very, very quickly, which isn’t going to mean that (programs are) going to go away, but it’s going to mean that the benefits that people get are going to be cut,’ Coughlin argued. ‘You have to start thinking about the sustainability of those programs for people who really need them,’ he went on. ‘And so there’s got to be real adult conversations about these things, and proposals put forward with binding votes for Congress to vote on.’ [...] Although Trump has waffled on the issue, Coughlin comes by his position honestly. Back in 2011, when he was flirting with a U.S. Senate run, he made a similar case. Coughlin voiced support for a handful of ideas backed by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI, who had been tapped as Mitt Romney’s vice presidential pick and would go on to become House Speaker during the Trump administration.</p>
<p>Paid for by LCV Victory Fund, www.lcvvictoryfund.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate’s committee . LCV Victory Fund is responsibl e for the</p>		

<p>content of this advertisement.</p>		<p>Those changes include converting Medicare into a voucher program for anyone under 55 at the time. The proposal would also steadily raise the eligibility age to 67 — a position which Coughlin now opposes. Coughlin also pledged support for a balanced budget proposal that would cap spending in such a way that cuts to Medicare and Social Security would likely be unavoidable.” (<i>Ohio Capital Journal</i>, 05/02/24)</p> <p>Kevin Coughlin made similar promises to cut Social Security and Medicare in 2011, “when he was flirting with a U.S. Senate run,” supporting “a handful of ideas backed by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan” including having “pledged support for a balanced budget proposal that would cap spending in such a way that cuts to Medicare and Social Security would likely be unavoidable.”</p> <p>“Although Trump has waffled on the issue, Coughlin comes by his position honestly. Back in 2011, when he was flirting with a U.S. Senate run, he made a similar case. Coughlin voiced support for a handful of ideas backed by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI, who had been tapped as Mitt Romney’s vice presidential pick and would go on to become House Speaker during the Trump administration. Those changes include converting Medicare into a voucher program for anyone under 55 at the time. The proposal would also steadily raise the eligibility age to 67 — a position which Coughlin now opposes. Coughlin also pledged support for a balanced budget proposal that would cap spending in such a way that cuts to Medicare and Social Security would likely be unavoidable.” (<i>Ohio Capital Journal</i>, 05/02/24)</p> <p>Kevin Coughlin also supports “converting Medicare into a voucher program for anyone under 55 and increasing the eligibility age to 67.” Raising the retirement age would cut “benefits for all new retirees,” and those “cuts could be deep,” and fall “hardest on lower- and middle-income beneficiaries because they rely most heavily on Social Security benefits.”</p>
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“Some policymakers, such as those on the Republican Study Committee, have proposed to raise Social Security’s full retirement age to 70 and beyond.[1] Raising the retirement age cuts benefits for all new retirees — that is, those claiming Social Security benefits for the first time. These cuts could be deep, and they would fall hardest on lower- and middle-income beneficiaries because they rely most heavily on Social Security benefits. Moreover, they have not seen the life expectancy gains that higher-income people have experienced and that are often used as the rationale for raising the retirement age.” (Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, [04/25/23](#))

Kevin Coughlin supported the Paul Ryan plan to “turn Medicare into a voucher program for anyone now under age 55” which when it was proposed in 2011, would cost “159,400 seniors in Ohio” ““\$6,698 more.”

“The U.S. House of Representatives budget would turn Medicare into a voucher program for anyone now under age 55. On retirement, they would get a federal voucher to use for health insurance in the private market. Republicans including the bill’s sponsor, Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, say this would put the brakes on runaway Medicare spending. Without bold action, Ryan and other Republicans say, Medicare’s expenses will outstrip income within a decade. [...] The GOP House proposal, which is considered dead on arrival in the Democratic Senate, is a responsible approach that starts getting the country’s spending under control, Coughlin says. ‘I support it,’ he said in a telephone interview. ‘I think it’s encouraging that for the first time in a long time we recognize that you cannot address the budget issues by just looking at the 18 percent that is discretionary.’ (The 18 percent figure excludes military spending.) The only way to attack the broader problem of excessive spending is to include entitlements like Medicare, Coughlin said. “The problem is that that discussion only goes as far as the House

doors with this Senate that we have.” [Cleveland.com, [05/06/11](#)]

“In ads to start running on Google and Facebook on Wednesday, the DSCC will ask Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel, former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin and former state Secretary of State Ken Blackwell to urge incumbent Republicans to leave Medicare alone [...] The current debate that the DSCC hopes to draw the Ohio trio into is over the \$14 trillion debt limit, which Congress must raise by early August or the government will run out of tricks to keep the house of cards (credit cards, if you will) from tumbling. Otherwise the United States debt rating will probably fall, some foreign creditors might get stiffed, and so on. But as the saying goes, at least we're not Greece. Republicans say that yes, the debt needs to be dealt with, but that means the country must stop spending so much money. Which brings us back to Medicare. Paul Ryan, a Republican congressman from Wisconsin and chairman of the House Budget Committee, has a proposal supported by many in the GOP to turn Medicare into a voucher program. Future retirees -- those now under age 55 -- would get a government voucher to help pay for private health insurance when they reach retirement age, slowly removing the federal government from the retiree insurance business. This could save a lot of money, partly because the value of vouchers would not be tied to the growth rate of medical costs, which have tended to soar. Some Republicans have tied the framework for this proposal to negotiations over raising the debt ceiling. Senate Minority leader Mitch McConnell has said that while the details might not be the same as Ryan has proposed, Medicare must be part of any debt-ceiling vote to get his support [...] There are features of the GOP Medicare plan ripe for debate. As Democrats see it, it'll mean seniors get stuck with thousands of dollars of medical and insurance costs because insurers will pass those high fees on. The costs will come to \$6,698 more for 159,400 seniors in Ohio, say the Democrats.” (Cleveland.com, [06/08/11](#))