Ramapo College to Host Symposium *Medicare and Medicaid: Reform or Abolish*

MAHWAH, NJ – Ramapo College is hosting a symposium, *Medicare and Medicaid: Reform or Abolish to Provide Better Health Care Outcomes,* on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Trustees Pavilion. The keynote speaker is Laurence J. Kotlikoff, president of Economic Security Planning, Inc., a company specializing in financial planning software and William Fairfield Warren Professor at Boston University. He is one of the country's leading experts in intergenerational accounting.

Professor Murray Sabrin of Ramapo College will serve as moderator.

Panelists participating in the symposium include:

• David Knowlton, president and CEO, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute

• Dr. Gail Reilly, medical director of the Parker Family Health Center, a nonprofit free clinic that provides medical care for uninsured patients

• Dr. Lois Copeland, a private practitioner in Hillsdale, N.J., and past president of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

• Dr. Alieta Eck, private practitioner and co-founder of Zarephath Health Center, in Franklin, N.J.

Medicare and Medicaid were created in 1965 as key components of President Johnson's "Great Society" program. Medicare is financed by payroll deductions and is facing significant financial challenges, with annual spending of nearly $800 billion. Passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act significantly expanded the number of Americans eligible for Medicaid, in addition to the federal funding allocated to the program. Critics and supports have been engaged in lively discussion about how these programs should be reformed or even abolished in order to provide for better health care options for the elderly and poor in the United States. The symposium will continue the discussion.

The event is free and open to the public. To register, visit www.ramapo.edu/asb/medicare-medicaid-symposium

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