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EBRI Testimony on Health Coverage and the Uninsured Among the “Near Elderly”

Paul Fronstin, director of the health research and education program at the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI), testified today (April 3) before the Senate Special Committee on Aging at a hearing on “Scrambling for Health Insurance Coverage: Health Security for People Between 55–64 Years of Age.”

Fronstin’s testimony focuses on data about the uninsured among this group of “near-elderly” Americans.

Excerpt: “While workers have for the most part experienced a small erosion in coverage, older workers and individuals are particularly vulnerable if they were to lose health insurance coverage. Older workers may lose coverage because of job displacement and may be unable to afford or obtain health insurance on their own due to their age and/or health status. Furthermore, retirees are less likely than in the past to have access to retiree health benefits as employers have been cutting back on this benefit.”

Fronstin’s complete testimony is available at http://www.ebri.org/publications/testimony/t-150

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