

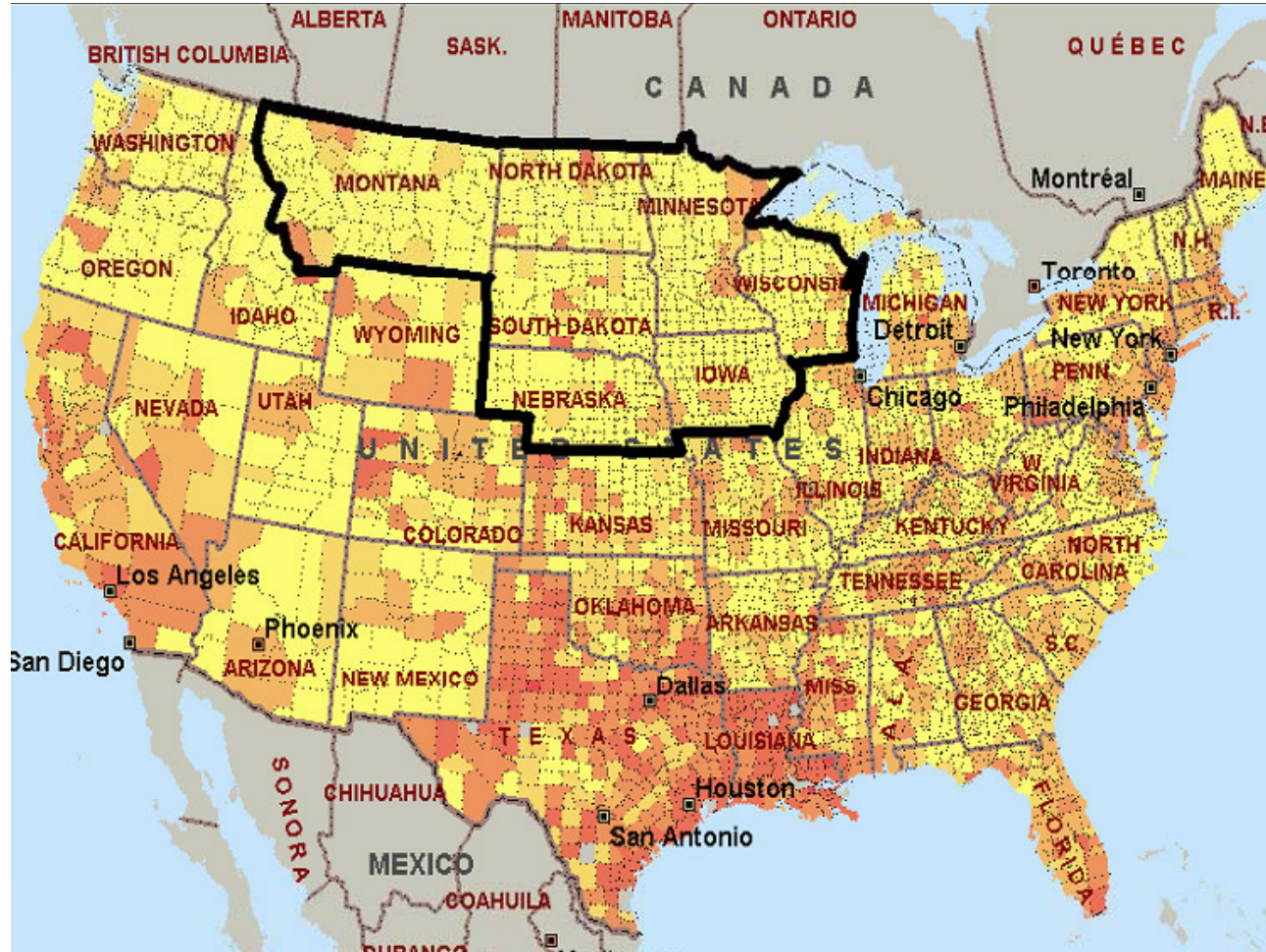
Reforming Medicare: Where do we go from here?

May 15, 2006

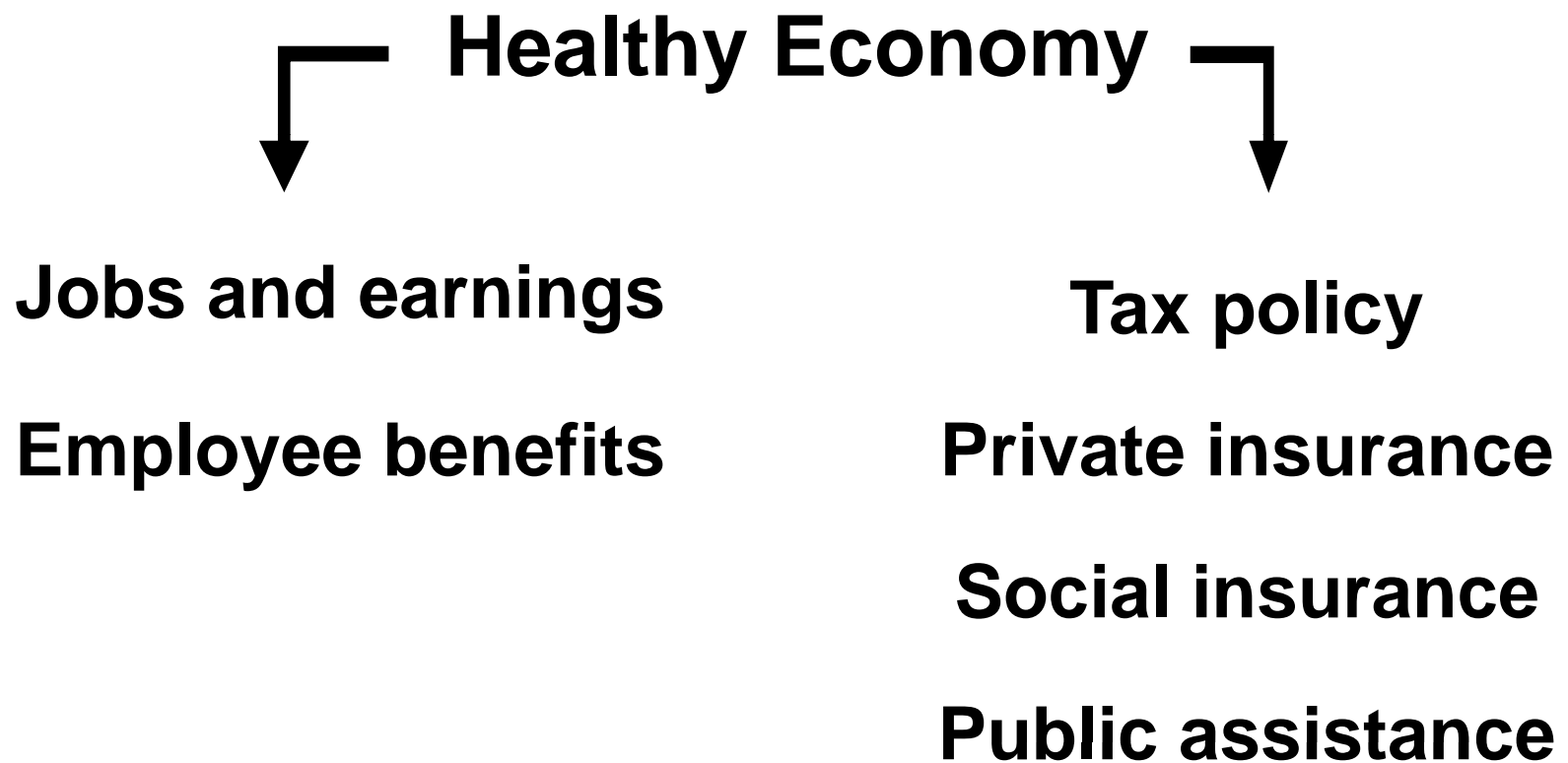
Honorable David Durenberger
Senior Health Policy Fellow
University of St. Thomas
Chair, National Institute of Health Policy



NIHP – The Upper Midwest



Components of Income Security Policy



Current trends in national income security policy

- Responsibility, not entitlement
- Ownership, not public assistance
- Generational inequity
 - \$9 trillion public debt and \$400 billion annual debt service
 - \$35 trillion private debt
- Income inequity
 - Regressive tax subsidies, not government programs
- Devolution of accountability

MMA and Recent Events



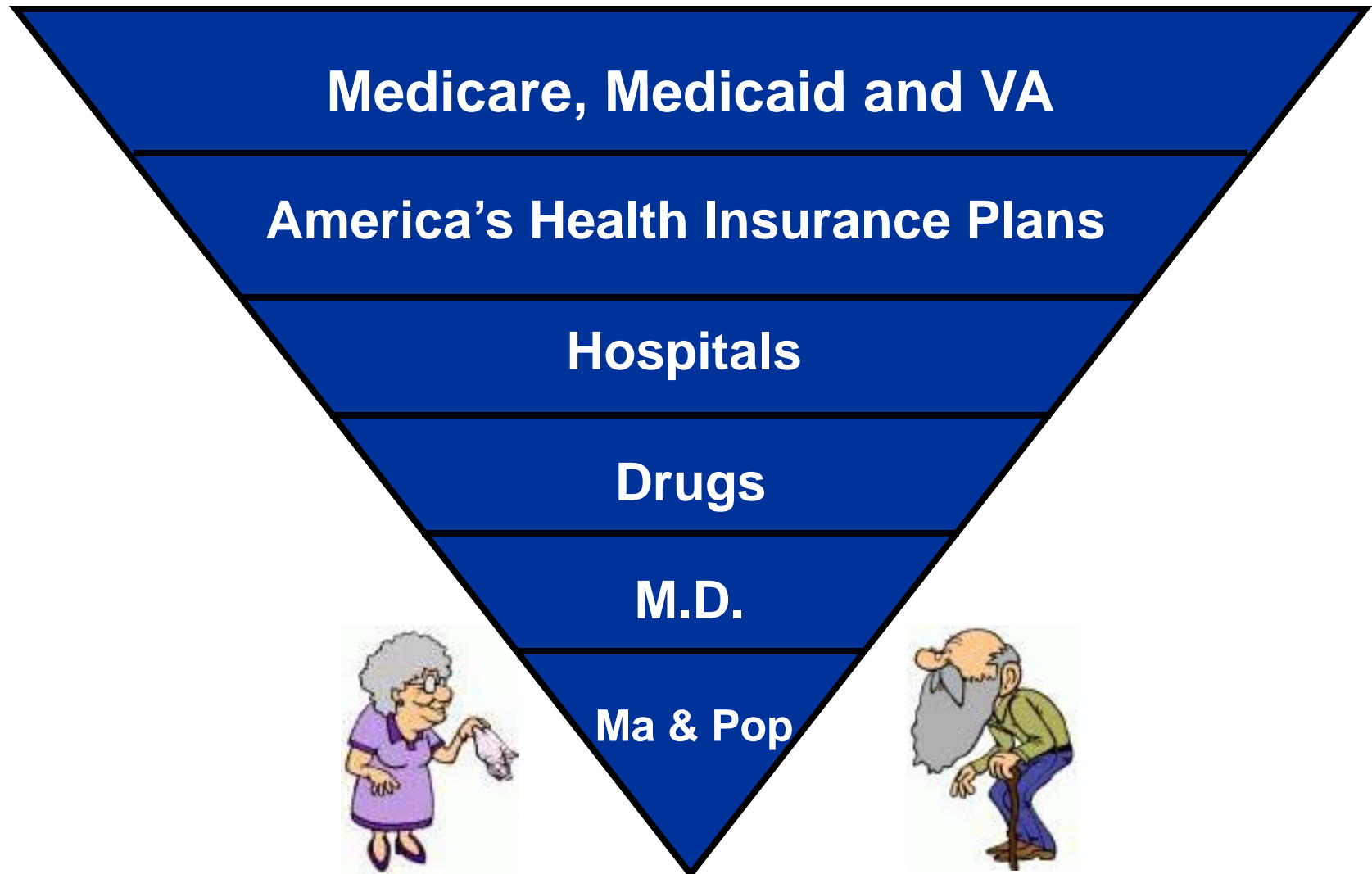
Republican Income Security Policy

- Solve the problems of entitlement bankruptcy without raising taxes
- End entitlement programs as we know them, from Social Security and Medicare to Medicaid and LTC
- Replace them with privatized and tax-subsidized saving accounts and private health insurance plans instead of government-run health care
- The ownership society means personal responsibility, not welfare as we've known it
- Devolution of fiscal accountability, e.g. the Medicare Clawback

Republican Health Policy

- Medicare is a health program
- Shifts financing responsibility to consumers
- Shifts accountability to disease managers and care coordinators
- “Walmartizing” health plans
- Results in “commodification” of everything
- Disintegration of organized care delivery systems

Consumer Driven Health Care



Republican Candidates: 2008 Elections



Senator Bill Frist (R-TN)



Arkansas
Governor Mike
Huckabee



Mass. Governor
Mitt Romney



Tommy Thompson



Newt Gingrich



Senator John McCain (R-AZ)

Democratic Candidates: 2008 Elections



Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY)



Senator John Kerry
(D-MA)



Senator John Edwards
(D-NC)