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To:
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Subject: SC Bar Elder Law Committee Newsletter



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aging Gracefully Conference

The South Carolina Bar, in conjunction with the S.C. Medical Association and the S.C. Coalition for the Care of the Seriously Ill, is holding its second annual conference, Aging Gracefully, to address the concerns and questions facing South Carolina's elderly, their families and their caregivers. Please note that the conference dates have been moved and will take place on October 8th in Greenville and November 5th in Florence. Click [here](#) for specific registration information.

Proposed Renewal of the Intellectually Disabled and Related Disabilities Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) is providing notice that a draft of the waiver renewal document for the Intellectually Disabled/Related Disabilities (IDRD) home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver will be submitted to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS), and available for public review and comment. Comments are due by September 10th, 2015. To locate instructions on how to provide comments go [here](#).

IN THE NEWS

Senior Pet Program

The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging is working hard to develop a program to support seniors' pets. Click [here](#) to learn more about the initiative and how you can get involved by becoming one of "Boots' Buddies."

Senior P.R.E.P (Planning Resources for Emergency Preparedness): Heat and Drought Safety

SENIOR P.R.E.P. is a program designed to raise awareness of the importance of individual emergency preparedness for South Carolina's senior population. It is sponsored by the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging (LGOA), in partnership with Walgreens and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD). Click [here](#) to see the Heat and Drought safety brochure.

USDA Proposes New Ways to Help Meet Nutrition Needs of Low-Income, Homebound Seniors and People with Disabilities

In July of 2015, USDA issued a proposed rule that would allow homebound, older Americans and disabled persons to use their SNAP benefits to purchase groceries through purchase and delivery services run by government agencies and non-profit organizations. This will provide greater access to healthy food for those who cannot get to the grocery store. Click [here](#) to see the full article.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Progress For Bill To Bolster Medicare Patients' Hospital Rights

On July 27, 2015, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved legislation requiring hospitals across the nation to tell Medicare patients when they receive observation care but haven't been admitted to the hospital as inpatients. The NOTICE Act, short for "Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility," would require hospitals to provide written notification to patients 24 hours after receiving observation care, explaining that they haven't been admitted to the hospital, the reasons why and the potential financial implications. Click [here](#) to read the full article.

Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our contact list by contacting Caitlin Watson at 803-576-3782 or cwatson@scbar.org.

