

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
Bowling	10-10-06

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER 000300	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <u>10-17-06</u>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
Ref: Log #54. Response letter attached. Cleared 11/10/06, letter attached.	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

10/10/2006 10:47 FAX 8039330957

SEN. L. GRAHAM COLA

→ SC DHS

004

LINDSEY O. GRAHAM
SOUTH CAROLINA



250 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5872

UNITED STATES SENATE

October 6, 2006

*Ref. log #54
cleared letter
attached.*

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2006

Mr. Robert Kerr
Director
SC Department of Health and Human Services
PO Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

RE: Heidi Jo Helmick
18 Berryhill Road
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 772-1849

Dear Mr. Kerr:

The attached letter concerns an issue outside my official jurisdiction. Therefore, as a courtesy to my constituent, Heidi Jo Helmick, I am sending this correspondence to your attention.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I ask that you please respond directly to Ms. Helmick.

Sincerely,

Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator

LOG/ss

Enclosure

508 HAMPTON STREET
SUITE 202
COLUMBIA, SC 29201
(803) 523-0112

401 WEST EVANS STREET
SUITE 2288
FLORENCE, SC 29501
(843) 689-1806

101 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
SUITE 220
GREENVILLE, SC 29601
(864) 250-1417

520 JOHNNIE DODGE BOULEVARD
SUITE 202
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29464
(843) 848-5867

140 EAST MAIN STREET
SUITE 110
ROCK HILL, SC 29730
(803) 396-2026

135 EAGLES NEST DRIVE
SUITE B
SENECA, SC 29678
(804) 885-5330

10/10/2006 10:49AM

04 2006
LINDESEY O. GRAHAM
 SOUTH CAROLINA



280 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
 WASHINGTON, DC 20510
 (202) 224-5972

UNITED STATES SENATE AUTHORIZATION FORM

By providing the information below and signing this form, I hereby authorize _____ (agency name) to furnish the office of U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham information pertaining to my claim or request. This authorization is in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974.

Name: Haidi Jo Holmick Phone: 803-772-1849

Address: 18 Bettyhill Rd. Apt 46

City: Columbia State: SC Zip: 29206-6424

Social Security Number: 264-73-6415 VA Number (if applicable): _____

In the space below, briefly describe the problems that you are experiencing and explain exactly what you would like Senator Graham to do on your behalf. Without this information, it will be impossible for Senator Graham to adequately assist you. (If you need more space, please use the back of the form).

I have mild cerebral palsy and I am in great need
of a "streetlegal" scooter but Medicaid refuses to
pay for it. They say it is a "luxury item." but they'd
give me a powerchair if I wanted one. I don't need
a powerchair because it will not help me get around
Columbia like going to the food store or the library.

Signed: Theresa J. Delmuth Date: 10-1-06

NOTE: Those requesting assistance from Senator Graham should note that if they are represented by an attorney, that attorney must contact the Senator's office by letter or telephone before action can proceed. This is to eliminate any confusion and it is in the best interest of the client.

If represented by an attorney, please give attorney's name _____

Please return form to:

U.S. Senator Lindsey O. Graham
 508 Hampton Street, Suite 202
 Columbia, South Carolina 29201
 Phone: (803) 933-0112
 Fax: (803) 933-0957

508 HAMPTON STREET
 SUITE 202
 COLUMBIA, SC 29201
 (803) 933-0112

401 WEST EVANS STREET
 SUITE 2288
 FLORENCE, SC 29501
 (843) 669-1505

101 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
 SUITE 226
 GREENVILLE, SC 29601
 (864) 260-1717

520 JOHNNIE DODDS BOULEVARD
 SUITE 202
 MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29464
 (843) 849-3887

140 EAST MAIN STREET
 SUITE 110
 ROCK HILL, SC 29730
 (803) 366-2329

135 EAGLES NEST DRIVE
 SUITE 8
 SENICCA, SC 29678
 (864) 888-3340

10/10/2006 10:49AM

MAIAD MEINACE
18 Berry Hill Rd.
Apt. 4E
Columbia, SC 29210
10-1-06

Dear Senator Graham,

Thank you for your letter and your kindness.

I am frustrated with the Medicaid system. I don't know what to do. I'm on Social Security Supplemental Income and I have a hard time getting around Columbia. I do have an old scooter but it is too old now to be repaired and it is not "street legal". I've been stopped more than once by the Highway Department when it did run because of the fact it was not street legal.

I was denied the scooter verbally by Medicaid and I indicated this to Congressman Joe Wilson's aide, but all I got back was a letter back telling me exactly verbally what I had told her.

Please Senator Graham, I really need help because my Aide isn't allowed to transport me to do my errands and I'm basically a shut-in without the scooter. I don't need a power wheelchair because I can't see myself going down streets and sidewalks in one. The Handker Company says that they can provide me with a scooter at a showroom discount, but it is still too high for me to try to get it by paying \$75.00 monthly out of the SSI. It would truly be a hardship on my daily living because all that I have goes to pay utility bills, rent and so on. I think Medicaid needs updating a bit too, because I can get exams for eye glasses, but not the glasses. It is the same for hearing aids and teeth problems.

Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely,

Abdul G. Alhadi

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Bowling</i>	<i>7-11-06</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER	<i>000054</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>7-18-06</i>	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<i>Cleaved 7/17/06, letter attached.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA	DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States **RECEIVED**
House of Representatives

JUL 10 2006

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
ERIC DELL
CHIEF OF STAFF

COUNTIES:
Aiken*
Allendale
Barnwell
Beaufort
Calhoun*
Hampton
 Jasper
Lexington
Orangeburg*
Richland*
(*PARTS OF)

July 7, 2006

Mr. Robert M. Kerr
Director
SC Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

RE: Miss Heidi J. Helmick
18 Berryhill Drive, Apt. 4C
Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Mr. Kerr,

I am writing to you on behalf of the above named constituent who has contacted me regarding obtaining a scooter for her transportation. Enclosed is a copy of all correspondence for your perusal. Any assistance that you could offer would be most appreciated.

It is an honor to represent the people of the Second Congressional District, and I value your input.

Please respond to the Midlands District Office at 1700 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia, South Carolina 29169; Fax number 803-939-0078. Thank you for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Yours very truly,

JW

JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW/jmc
Enclosure

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 7381
COLUMBIA, SC 29202
(803) 939-0041
Fax: (803) 939-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
Fax: (202) 225-2455
E-MAIL: joe.wilson@mail.house.gov
WEBSITE: www.house.gov/joewilson

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. Box 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
Fax: (843) 521-2536

From: web forms <webforms@heoc-www6.house.gov>
 Date: 6/27/2006 7:08:34 PM
 To: imasc02@mail.house.gov
 Subject: IMA MAIL ON HE.MCAID

Dear Honorable Joe Wilson,

I am Heidi Helmick and I have mild cerebral palsy. I am 46 years old and living the best I can on my SSI. I need your assistance in dealing with Medicaid because they will not pay for a scooter but they say they will pay for a "power chair" which I do not need.

I need the scooter in order to get around independently here in Columbia, South Carolina. You see, this is vitally important to me as the recent federal law by Medicaid states that Aides can not transport their clients any longer to their errands and Doctor's appointments.

The scooter that I have now is very old and it is no longer working. Even though it may be just the batteries, and some kind of mechanism that needs to be replaced in the steering, it is not considered to be "street legal" and I have been stopped more than once because it does not have turning signals and headlights and reflectors like modern scooters have.

I do have a Physican's perscription for the scooter, and I really do need it so please I beg you to find it in your heart to help me with Medicaid. I am trying to find a Government grant in the hopes of being able to get one to pay for the scooter, but so far, I have not been able to find a thing.

If the Landlex Cooperation will allow me to pay them \$75.00 a month for the scooter, I could probably find a way to do it but I confess that it will be a struggle to do so for the next two years as I am on SSI.

The irony is that if I was on Medicare, I would be able to get the scooter, but I am not 65, blind or worked for the Railroad. Medicare would help in a lot of ways but I can't get on it.

This is the only state that I know of that one can get a eye exam but not eyeglasses. I know that the times are tough, but isn't it reasonable to think if one can not pay for a eye exam, one can not pay for glasses either?

Please please find a way to help me. I need my scooter not only because I need to get places around Columbia, but

I also hope to be able to return back to school to finish up my BA degree in History.

Thank you for at least reading my letter,

Sincerely,
 Heidi J Helmick

18 Berryhill Drive Apt. 4C
 Columbia, SC. 29210
 803-772-1849

==== Original Formatted Message Starts Here =====

<APP>SCMAIL
 <PREFIX>Miss </PREFIX>
 <FIRST>Heidi</FIRST>
 <MIDDLE>J</MIDDLE>
 <LAST>Helmick</LAST>
 <SUFFIX></SUFFIX>
 <ADDR1>18 Berryhill Drive Apt. 4C</ADDR1>
 <ADDR2> </ADDR2>
 <CITY>Columbia</CITY>
 <STATE>SC</STATE>
 <ZIP>29210</ZIP>

<ZIP4></ZIP4>
<ISSUE>HE.MCAID</ISSUE>
<EMAIL>a1ufal@aol.com</EMAIL>

<MSG>

Dear Honorable Joe Wilson,
I am Heidi Helmick and I have mild Cerebral Palsy. I am 46 years old and living the best I can on my SSI. I need your assistance in dealing with Medicaid because they will not pay for a scooter but they say they will pay for a "power chair" which I do not need.

I need the scooter in order to get around independently here in Columbia, South Carolina. You see, this is vitally important to me as the recent federal law by Medicaid states that Aides can not transport their clients any longer to their errands and Doctor's appointments.

The scooter that I have now is very old and it is no longer working. Even though it may be just the batteries, and some kind of mechanism that needs to be replaced in the steering, it is not considered to be "street legal" and I have been stopped more than once because it does not have turning signals and headlights and reflectors like modern scooters have.

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Please please find a way to help me. I need my scooter not only because I need to get places around Columbia, but I also hope to be able to return back to school to finish up my BA degree in History.

Thank you for at least reading my letter,
Sincerely,
Heidi J Helmick

18 Berryhill Drive Apt. 4C
Columbia, SC. 29210
803-772-1849

</MSG>

</APP>



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

July 17, 2006

The Honorable Joe Wilson
Midlands District Office
1700 Sunset Boulevard
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Dear Congressman Wilson:

Thank you for your forwarding a copy of Ms. Heidi Helmick's correspondence regarding Medicaid coverage of scooters to the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for review and response. We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Medicaid coverage is limited to medically necessary services, equipment, and supplies. Scooters, although desirable, are not considered medically necessary. However, Medicaid is able to provide an appropriate wheelchair to meet Ms. Helmick's medical needs based on the certification of medical necessity that her physician submitted. It is my understanding that program staff spoke with Ms. Helmick several weeks ago and advised her of this policy.

Thank you for your support of the South Carolina Medicaid program. If you or your staff have further questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me directly or Mr. James Assey, R.Ph., Director, Division of Pharmacy and Durable Medical Equipment Services. He may be reached at (803) 898-2875.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert M. Kerr".

Robert M. Kerr
Director

RMK/bgam

log # 54
✓



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

November 6, 2006

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator
508 Hampton Street
Suite 202
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Senator Graham:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Ms. Heidi Jo Helmick regarding South Carolina Medicaid's coverage of scooters. We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Medicaid's coverage is limited to medically necessary services, equipment and supplies. Scooters, although desirable, are not considered medically necessary. However, Medicaid is able to provide an appropriate wheelchair to meet Ms. Helmick's medical needs based on the certification of medical necessity that her physician submitted. It is my understanding that program staff spoke with Ms. Helmick several weeks ago and advised her of this policy.

Thank you for your support of the South Carolina Medicaid program. If you or your staff have further questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me directly or Mr. James Assey, R.Ph., Director, Division of Pharmacy and Durable Medical Equipment Services. He may be reached at (803) 898-2875.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. M. Kerr", is written over the typed name.

Robert M. Kerr
Director

RMK/bgam



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

November 6, 2006

Ms. Heidi Jo Helmick
18 Berryhill Road, Apartment, 4C
Columbia, South Carolina 29210-6424

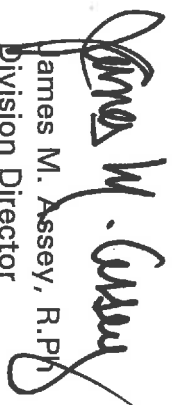
Dear Ms. Helmick:

I am writing you today at the request of Senator Lindsey O. Graham regarding South Carolina Medicaid's coverage of scooters. We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

As I discussed recently with you by telephone, Medicaid's coverage is limited to medically necessary services, equipment and supplies. Scooters, although desirable, are not considered medically necessary. However, Medicaid is able to provide an appropriate wheelchair to meet your medical needs based on the certification of medical necessity that your physician may submit.

I hope the information provided is helpful to you. If you, your physician or your Durable Medical Equipment provider have further questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me at (803) 898-2875.

Sincerely,


James M. Assey, R.Ph.
Division Director

JMA/m