

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>7-16-08</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000029</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>7-25-08</i>	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleared 7/29/08, letter attached.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	

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

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
EDUCATION AND LABOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

July 15, 2008

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2008

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Emma Forkner
Director
SC Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

RE: Ms. Betty L. Aughtry
2094 Scenic Drive
West Columbia, SC 29170

Dear Ms. Forkner,

I am writing to you on behalf of the above named constituent who has contacted me seeking assistance with her Medicare Part B Premium. 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,



JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW/jmc
Enclosure

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
(803) 939-0041
FAX: (803) 939-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
FAX: (202) 225-2455
www.joewilson.house.gov

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. BOX 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

June 23, 2008

Senator Jake Knotts
PO Box 142
Room 303
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Senator Knotts:

Enclosed is the information I talked with you about. Due to my low income I applied for help to pay my Medicare payment through a Medicaid program. I am currently drawing \$ 783.00 from Social Security and \$ 170.02 from state retirement. I was told that beginning June 30, 2008 I will lose \$ 96.40 from my social security check. I have cancelled several things at home to help myself. I no longer have Direct TV and I no longer have a cell phone. There is nothing else I can cancel. I have heart problems and I take several meds for that. I appreciate anything you can do to help me.

Sincerely,



Betty L. Aughtry
2094 Scenic Dr
West Columbia, SC 29170-4330
Phone 755-1278



THE SENATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

FAX COVER SHEET

SENATE INVITATIONS COMMITTEE

John M. Knotts, Jr., Chairman

Telephone: 803-212-6350

Facsimile: 803-212-6356

TO: Joann Coefield

FAX: 939-0078

TELEPHONE:

FROM: Jeannie Burnside

DATE: July 3, 2008

RE: Constituent Issue

PAGES: 3 (including cover page)

Attached is a letter from a constituent. Her Social Security is being cut and she is upset about it. Her contact info. is on the letter. Hopefully your office will be able to help her. Thanks!



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

June 13, 2008

Emma Forkner
Director

TO: Medicaid Beneficiary

Currently you are part of a special program that allows Medicaid to pay your Medicare Part B premium. The federal government only gives Medicaid a limited amount of money to help people in this program. Unfortunately, this program will end June 30, 2008 by federal law and Medicaid will no longer be able to pay your Medicare Part B premium. This means that Social Security will begin taking \$96.40 out of your Social Security check to pay your Medicare Part B premium.

We deeply regret this change. You will receive another letter when your case is closed. If the federal law is extended, we will notify you as quickly as possible so that you can re-apply for Medicare Part B premium assistance.

If you have a question about this letter, please call toll free 1-888-549-0820. We will be available to explain this letter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner
Director



Log # 0034 ✓

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

July 29, 2008

The Honorable Joe Wilson
United States House of Representatives
Midlands District Office
1700 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Dear Congressman Wilson:

Thank you for contacting our agency on behalf of Ms. Betty Aughtry regarding the payment of her Medicare Part B premium.

A member of our staff has been in direct contact with Ms. Aughtry regarding Medicaid eligibility and the rules and regulations governing the program. We notified her that the Qualified Individuals (QI) program was reauthorized and we are awaiting information regarding enrollment levels. We will notify her if she becomes eligible for the QI program in the future.

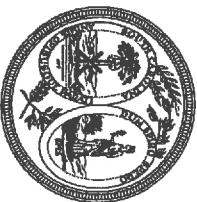
We appreciate your continued interest and support of the South Carolina Medicaid program. If I may be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner
Director

EF/jcol



Log # 0024

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

July 28, 2008

Ms. Betty L. Aughtry
2094 Scenic Drive
West Columbia, South Carolina 29170

Dear Ms. Aughtry:

Congressman Joe Wilson contacted our agency on your behalf regarding the recent change in the payment of your Medicare Part B premium.

The Qualified Individuals (QI) program ended June 30, 2008, because the federal government did not authorize the funds for Medicaid to continue to pay for your Medicare Part B premium. However, the federal government has reauthorized the program and is in the process of making these funds available to South Carolina. We are awaiting further word from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and will notify you if you may be eligible for the QI program in the near future.

We regret the inconvenience these changes may have caused you and your family. For possible assistance with your utility bills, you may wish to contact the Wateree Community Actions, Inc., at (803) 755-4354.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jennifer Lynch at (803) 898-3965, and she will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Alicia Jacobs

Alicia Jacobs
Acting Deputy Director

AJ/col