

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Ries</i>	DATE <i>9-5-06</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER  <i>000223</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>9-12-06</i>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>Cleaved 9/29/06, letter attached.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<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.			



*Rog-Ries*  
*"Rog's Sign"*

SOCIAL SECURITY

August 31, 2006

Atlanta Region  
Social Security Administration  
61 Forsyth St., SW  
Suite 22T64  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8907

Dr. Robert Kerr, Director  
Bureau of Long Term Care  
Department of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 05 2006  
Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Dr. Kerr:

The amount of the January 2007 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will not be announced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics until October 2006. The COLA is based on the increase in the consumer price index base period which ends September 30, and is established by law.

As usual, we face restrictive implementation deadlines to reprogram the COLA changes. Therefore, we would appreciate your immediate attention to this matter.

We need to know whether you will: (1) pass along the full amount of the January 2007 COLA increase to all cases (mandatory and optional); or (2) elect to maintain at least the same level of total expenditures for the period January 2007 - December 2007 as for the immediately preceding 12-month period.

Please provide us with written confirmation of your decision by October 23, 2006. Also, it would be helpful if you would FAX your response before mailing it. Questions regarding this should be directed to Barbara Schindler of the SSI Program Team at (404) 562-5836 or via email to [barbara.schindler@ssa.gov](mailto:barbara.schindler@ssa.gov). The FAX number is (404) 562-1325.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul D. Barnes*

Paul D. Barnes  
Regional Commissioner



State of South Carolina  
Department of Health and Human Services

223



Mark Sanford  
Governor

Robert M. Kerr  
Director

September 29, 2006

Mr. Paul D. Barnes, Regional Commissioner  
Atlanta Region  
Social Security Administration  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Suite 22T64  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8907

Dear Mr. Barnes:

In response to your correspondence dated August 31, 2006 regarding the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), the State of South Carolina will pass along the full amount of the January 2007 COLA increase to all cases (mandatory and optional).

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert M. Kerr".

Robert M. Kerr  
Director

RMK/rjol

Office of the Director  
P.O. Box 8206 • Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206  
Phone (803) 898-2504 • Fax (803) 898-4515





*cc: Gary*



**SOCIAL SECURITY**

Office of the Regional Commissioner  
61 Forsyth Street SW, Suite 22T64  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8907  
October 25, 2006

*Reg. Log # 223*

**RECEIVED**

OCT 27 2006

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dr. Robert Kerr, Director  
Bureau of Long Term Care  
Department of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Dear Dr. Kerr:

Thank you for the fast response on how you plan to pass along the January 2007 cost of living adjustment (COLA) to your state supplement recipients. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has announced that the COLA will be 3.3 percent. The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) federal benefit rates will be \$623 for an individual and \$934 for an eligible couple. The essential person increment is \$312.

The SSI payment cap for those in Medicaid facilities (federal living arrangement D) remains at \$30 (individual)/\$60 (couple). The value of the one-third reduction (for living in another's household will be \$207.66/\$311.33. The presumed maximum value of in-kind support and maintenance computes to \$227.66/\$331.33. The resource limits remain at \$2000/\$3000.

If you need additional information about the January 2007 COLA, please contact Barbara Schindler, SSI Program Team, 404-562-5836.

Sincerely,

*Paul D. Barnes*  
Paul D. Barnes  
Regional Commissioner

*Barbara, I  
File  
with this  
log. Thanks!  
Lm*