

Suzette Smith

To: www.governor.sc.gov
Cc: sueq32@sccoast.net
Subject: Medicare Denial on Billie N. Smith

12/28/14

Dear Governor:

First, congratulation on your reelection – the family was delighted!

My husband, Billie N. Smith, a retired Army officer, 83 years of age was diagnosed about 3 years ago with a kidney tumor and had to undergo dialysis treatments 3 times a week. Now he has end stage Renal failure and for the last six months his health has taken a rapid decline. He goes to the Fresenius Center at Murrells Inlet for dialysis. The ambulance Service (AMS) has been taking him back & forth three times a week since he started there a year or so ago. We were notified by telephone from the Center two days before Christmas that Medicare had denied his care for ambulatory transport. He has now a very hard time to use his walker being so weak. He almost fell last night coming back from the Center and he was very upset and could not eat. He has to be fed mostly on nutritional supplements because he has a very hard time swallowing.

We have been married for over 55 years and I believe that if he does not get any help with transport he will not last very long. I have had Parkinson for 3 years and I am not supposed to drive. I also had 2 surgeries this year, one right hip replacement and recently my toes re-aligned so I could walk. We have three wonderful children, 2 in Jersey and one in NC. They do try to come when they can but when they do it is for a short time.

I am asking for your help if an appeal can be made about the Medicare denial and I will be very grateful to hear from you soon.

Sincerely yours,



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