


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

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>1-7-09</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER  <b>100369</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>Cleaved 1/9/09, letter attached</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>1-19-09</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.			

LINDSEY O. GRAHAM  
SOUTH CAROLINA200 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5972UNITED STATES SENATE  
Fax Transmittal Sheet**RECEIVED**

JAN 07 2009

TO: Emma Forkner  
Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORFROM: Sara SnellDATE: 1-7-09COMMENTS: Please see the attached.Thank you!4 PAGE(S) TO FOLLOWIF THERE IS ANY PROBLEM RECEIVING THIS FAX, PLEASE  
CALL (803) 933-0112.

**Confidentiality:** This message is intended solely for the use of the addressee and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering it to the recipient, you are put on notice that any dissemination, distributing or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by phone and return the original message at the address via U.S. Postal Service.

Thank you.

508 HAMPTON STREET  
SUITE 202  
COLUMBIA, SC 29201  
(803) 833-0112401 WEST EVANS STREET  
SUITE 226B  
FLORENCE, SC 29501  
(843) 669-1505101 EAST WASHINGTON STREET  
SUITE 220  
GREENVILLE, SC 29601  
(864) 260-1417530 JOHNNIE DODDS BOULEVARD  
SUITE 202  
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29464  
(843) 649-3657140 EAST MAIN STREET  
SUITE 110  
ROCK HILL, SC 29730  
(803) 308-6222135 EAGLES NEST DRIVE  
SUITE B  
SENECA, SC 29678  
(864) 899-3330

01/07/2009 03:05PM

LINDSEY O. GRAHAM  
SOUTH CAROLINA



200 Russell Senate Office Building  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-6972

## UNITED STATES SENATE

January 7, 2009

**RECEIVED**

JAN 07 2009

Ms. Emma Forkner  
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: Lynda Bechtold  
2959 Lyndhurst Road  
Barnwell, SC 29812  
SSN: 247-84-8662

Dear Ms. Forkner:

The attached letter concerns an issue outside my official jurisdiction. Therefore, as a courtesy to my constituent, Lynda Bechtold, 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. Bechtold.

Sincerely,

Lindsey O. Graham  
United States Senator

LOG/ss

Enclosure

508 HAMPTON STREET  
SUITE 202  
COLUMBIA, SC 29201  
(803) 883-0112

401 WEST EWING STREET  
SUITE 220B  
FLORENCE, SC 29501  
(843) 688-1505

101 EAST WASHINGTON STREET  
SUITE 220  
GREENVILLE, SC 29601  
(864) 260-1417

530 JOHNNIE DODDS BOULEVARD  
SUITE 202  
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29464  
(843) 848-9887

140 EAST MAIN STREET  
SUITE 110  
ROCK HILL, SC 29730  
(803) 368-2828

136 EAGLE NEST DRIVE  
SUITE B  
SEALEY, SC 29678  
(864) 888-3380

01/07/2009 03:05PM

DEC 29 2008

**LYNDA F. BECHTOLD**

2959 Lyndhurst Road  
Barnwell, SC 29812

December 26, 2008

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
508 Hampton Street  
Suite 202  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Senator Graham:

I am writing you regarding a recent decision by the State of South Carolina to no longer pay my Medicare medical insurance premium after December 2008. I have been receiving \$981.00 per month with the State paying this premium for me, now I will receive \$941.00 per month. This is after the 5.8% increase that was approved in Social Security increase this year. It seems to me that I was better off before I got the increase since I will now be receiving less monthly than I have previously. Also, I am now responsible for a portion of my Medicare prescription drug coverage which is another amount decreased from my monthly benefits.

This seems to be contrary to the purpose of the increase that was granted. It leaves me in the grey zone of being over qualified for any programs for low income individuals such as food stamps or Medicaid or any other federal programs. I am a 60 year old widow on Social Security Disability with no possibility of gainful employment and have only my benefits to live on.

I believe in paying my fair share, but feel that I am stepping backward rather than moving forward with this increase in my benefits. I have requested a review of this matter from the Social Security Administration but do not know when this will be scheduled. I would appreciate it if your staff could investigate this matter for me and if nothing else, refuse the 5.8% increase that was granted to me. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Lynda F. Bechtold

Cc: SSA

LYNDA F. BECHTOLD

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2950 Lyndhurst Road  
Barrowell, SC 29812

December 26, 2008

Social Security  
151 Corporate Pkwy  
Aiken, SC 29803

To Whom It May Concern:

I am appealing your decision regarding the State of South Carolina paying my Medicare medical insurance premiums after December 2008.

If I have to pay this premiums, I will be loosing all of the increase in Social Security benefits plus that was passed for the coming year. My actual decrease in income will be close to \$50.00 per month.

Please send me the required form to file for reconsideration of this decision.

Sincerely,

  
Lynda Bechtold

Enc.

Cc: Lindsey Graham  
United States Senator

# Social Security Administration Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance Important Information

Southeastern Program Service Center  
1200 8th Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL 35285  
Date: December 23, 2008  
Claim Number: 247-84-8662HA

000012210 01AT 0.346 T049 TZR MD4,1216,PC3,N,BI.



LYNDA F BECHTOLD  
2959 LYNDHURST RD  
BARNEWELL SC 29812-6751

**The State of South Carolina will no longer pay your Medicare medical insurance premiums after December 2008. You must pay the premiums beginning January 2009.**

## What We Will Pay And When

- You will receive \$941.00 for December 2008 around January 2, 2009.
- After that you will receive \$941.00 on or about the third of each month.

## To Cancel This Insurance

**If you want to cancel this insurance, please contact the local Social Security office at the telephone number and address shown below. Remember that the date your insurance coverage ends depends on when you cancel it:**

- If you cancel it within 30 days from the date of this notice, your coverage will end at the same time the State stopped paying the premiums.
- If you cancel it after 30 days but within six months of when the State stopped paying the premiums, coverage will stop at the end of the same month in which you contact us.
- If you wait more than 6 months to contact us, coverage will stop at the end of the month after the month in which you contact us.

## If You Disagree With The Decision

**If you disagree with the change we have made to your monthly payment, you have the right to appeal. We will review your case again and consider any new facts you have. A person who did not make the first decision will decide your case.**

- **You have 60 days to ask for an appeal.**

## Cool Next Page



State of South Carolina  
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford  
Governor

Emma Forkner  
Director

January 9, 2008

Ms. Lynda Bechtold  
2959 Lyndhurst Road  
Barnwell, South Carolina 29812

Dear Ms. Bechtold:

Senator Lindsey Graham contacted our agency on your behalf regarding the payment of your Medicare Part B premium.

I am pleased to inform you that your Medicare Part B premium will continue to be paid through the Qualified Individual (QI) program. You will receive written notice of your approval for the QI program shortly. You will get a refund from the Social Security Administration (SSA) for premiums deducted since January 1, 2009.

You are eligible for this benefit only through December 31 of this year. To be eligible for this benefit next year, you must reapply. We will mail you an application in October 2009.

We regret the inconvenience these changes may have caused you. If you have additional questions, please contact Jennifer Lynch at (803) 898-3965 or toll free at 1-888-549-0820, Ext. 3965, and she will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alicia Jacobs", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Alicia Jacobs  
Deputy Director

AJ/cl

Log # 0369

