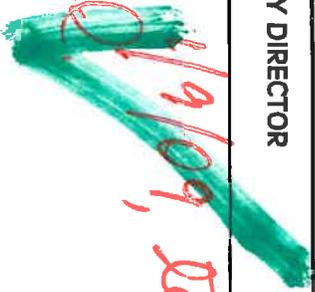


**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>1-7-09</i>
---------------------	---------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100369</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleaveland Jacobs, Director</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.			

LINDESEY O. GRAHAM
SOUTH CAROLINA



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

UNITED STATES SENATE
Fax Transmittal Sheet

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

TO: Emma Forkner

FROM: Sara Snell

DATE: 1-7-09

COMMENTS: Please see the attached.

Thank you!

4 PAGE(S) TO FOLLOW

IF 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) 893-0112

401 WEST EVANS STREET
SUITE 226B
FLORENCE, SC 29501
(843) 669-1505

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

630 JOHNNIE DODDS BOULEVARD
SUITE 202
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29484
(843) 649-3687

140 EAST MAIN STREET
SUITE 110
ROCK HILL, SC 29730
(803) 309-2232

135 EAGLE NEST DRIVE
SUITE B
SENECA, SC 29678
(864) 899-3330

01/07/2009 03:05PM

LINDSEY O. GRAHAM
SOUTH CAROLINA



280 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-8972

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
Bartwell, 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) 833-0112

401 West Ewing Street
Suite 2208
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 683-1505

101 East Washington Street
Suite 220
Greenville, SC 29601
(864) 280-1417

530 Jhonnie Deoos Boulevard
Suite 202
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 848-9887

140 East Main Street
Suite 110
Rock Hill, SC 29730
(803) 388-2828

136 Eagle Nest Drive
Suite B
Spartanburg, SC 29378
(864) 588-3300

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

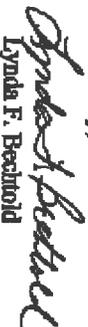
Dear Senator Graham:

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

2950 Lyndhurst Road
Barnwell, 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



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 that reads "Alicia Jacobs".

Alicia Jacobs
Deputy Director

AJ/cl

Log # 0369

