

November 17, 2003

«FirstName»
«Address 1»
«CityStateZip»

Dear «Salutation»:

Currently you are enrolled in the Maryland Pharmacy Discount Program. With enrollment, the Maryland Medical Assistance Program notified the Social Security Administration that Maryland Medical Assistance would pay your **Medicare** medical insurance premium. **This information was sent to Social Security in error.** Coverage in the Maryland Pharmacy Discount Program does not include payment of your Medicare premium as a benefit. Maryland Medical Assistance has notified the Social Security Administration about this **error**.

Social Security may have already sent you a letter advising you that Maryland Medical Assistance is paying your Medicare medical insurance premium and the monthly premium of \$58.70 would no longer be deducted from your payment from Social Security. You may have received reimbursement from Social Security for the premiums we already paid.

When you receive your **December 2003** Social Security payment, Social Security will deduct \$176.10 to cover premiums paid in error for October, November and December 2003. Social Security will not deduct money for any premiums that Medical Assistance paid prior to October 2003. We regret any problems this may cause you.

We are also enclosing an application for the Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program, a Maryland Medical Assistance Program. If you are found eligible for this program, it will pay your monthly Medicare medical insurance premium of \$58.70.

You may be eligible for the SLMB Program if:

- Your total monthly income is no more than \$1030 for one person and \$1383 for a married couple.
- Your assets, such as bank accounts, stocks and bonds and other sources of savings, cannot be more than \$4000 for one person and \$6000 for a couple.

If you need assistance completing the application, you can contact «SHIPCoord» at the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) in your area. The phone number is «Phone». After you have completed the application, please mail it to: «Address2».

We sincerely apologize for this error and any hardship it has caused. If you have any questions or want to discuss this letter, please call me at the Medicare Buy-In Program. The phone number is 410-767-5375 or 1-800-638-3403.

Very truly yours,

Janet M. Smith

Janet M. Smith
Manager
Medicare Buy-In Program

Enclosure (1)