

October 13, 2009

Mr. Darnall Daley, Jr.
1751 Garfield Ave
Reading, Pennsylvania 19610

Dear Mr. Daley:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the Medicare Advantage program. I appreciate hearing from you regarding this important issue.

Medicare Advantage plans are private health plans, including Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) and private fee-for service plans, that contract with Medicare to provide all Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (physician's services and outpatient care) benefits. Beneficiaries that are eligible for Medicare Part A and enrolled in Part B may choose to enroll in Medicare Advantage, and receive all Part A and B benefits through a private plan.

I have heard from numerous Pennsylvanians who benefit from Medicare Advantage plans and are concerned about proposed funding cuts to this program. Please be assured that I will take your views into consideration as the Senate moves forward with legislation that addresses issues related to Medicare, such as Medicare Advantage.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

AS:rc