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*****Media Advisory*****

HEARING: New Tools for Curbing Waste and Fraud in Medicare and Medicaid

Delawarean to Testify on the Delaware Senior Medicare Patrol Program's Success in Reducing Fraud

WASHINGTON – Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.), Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services and International Security, will hold a hearing titled "New Tools for Curbing Waste and Fraud in Medicare and Medicaid" on **Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.**

The hearing will examine the enhanced tools provided in the Affordable Care Act to reduce waste, fraud and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid. The hearing will include consideration of new policies and procedures that help put into place a proactive system for fighting and preventing health care fraud. The new provisions will reduce the loss of money from the Medicare and Medicaid programs by stopping payments when there is clear evidence of fraud, screening health care providers for criminal histories, accelerating fraud review process, increasing funding to the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control program and toughening penalties.

The hearing will include testimony from Mrs. Helen Carson, a volunteer coordinator and case manager with the Delaware Senior Medicare Patrol Program, a statewide organization that enlists retired senior citizens who volunteer to provide information and help other Medicare beneficiaries seek appropriate courses of action when they suspect fraud, waste or abuse of the Medicare program. Carson will testify on behalf of the organization, sharing success stories of seniors in reducing waste and fraud in the Medicare program in Delaware.

"In light of unprecedented levels of federal debt, it is particularly important to ensure proper use of taxpayer funds so that our federal programs, particularly ones like Medicare and Medicaid, are not losing money from waste, fraud and abuse," said Sen. Carper. "The Administration has demonstrated its commitment to curbing waste and fraud by implementing program integrity provisions of the Affordable Care Act, and we have already seen this work result in billions of dollars in recoupment from criminal convictions and court settlements. Through my hearing, we will learn more about the measures that have been put in place to fight health care fraud and discuss how to make these measures even more effective. I'm particularly looking forward to hearing the testimony of representatives from the Delaware Senior Medical Patrol Program, an organization that has been a leader in protecting the integrity of Medicare in the First State."

To watch a live stream of Sen. Carper's hearing, please click [HERE](#).

WHAT:

U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee Hearing "New Tools for Curbing Waste and Fraud in Medicare and Medicaid"

WHEN:

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

2:30 p.m.

WHERE:

342 Dirksen Senate Office Building

WITNESSES:

Peter Budetti, M.D., J.D.

Deputy Administrator and Director for Program Integrity

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Gregory Andres

Acting Deputy Assistance Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Daniel Levinson

Inspector General

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Kathleen King

Director, Health Care

U.S. Government Accountability Office

Mrs. Helen Carson

Volunteer Coordinator and Case Manager

Delaware Senior Medicare Patrol Program

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