

SENIOR SERVICE NUMBERS TO ASSIST YOU

Help is just a phone call away. Please save these useful numbers.

Adult Home Help/Chore Services.....(800) 292-2550
 Adult Protective Services,
 for reports of suspected abuse and neglect(855) 444-3911
 Area Agency on Aging 1B.....(248) 357-2255
 Attorney General
 Consumer Protection Division(877) 765-8388
 Office of Elder Abuse(800) 242-2873
 Bridge Card (EBT) – Customer Service(888) 678-8914
 COVID-19 Hotline.....(888) 535-6136
 Disability Ombudsman.....(800) 288-5923
 Domestic Violence Hotline.....(800) 799-7233
 Elder Care Services.....(800) 677-1116
 Elder Law of Michigan, Inc.(866) 400-9164
 Energy Assistance..... 2-1-1
 Home Heating Tax Credit Status.....(517) 636-4486
 Medicaid Customer Help(800) 642-3195
 Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP).....(800) 803-7174
 Medicare, includes Part D for pharmacy(800) 633-4227
 Medicare Savings Program(800) 772-1213
 MI Enrolls – Medicaid Managed Care(888) 367-6557
 Michigan Department of Health & Human Services,
 Cash & Food Assistance.....(844) 464-3447

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services,
 Medicaid Beneficiary Support(800) 642-3195
 Michigan Long-Term Care Ombudsman(866) 485-9393
 Michigan Stroke Network.....(866) 522-8676
 Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.....(800) 642-4838
 National Alliance on Mental Illness.....(810) 232-6498
 Nursing Home Complaints.....(800) 882-6006
 Oakland Community Health Network,
 for mental health or substance use services(248) 464-6363
 Oakland County Health Division(248) 858-1280
 Oakland County Health Division, Nurse on Call Hotline(800) 848-5533
 Oakland Meals on Wheels.....(248) 689-0001
 Relay Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing 7-1-1
 Senior Alliance.....(800) 815-1112
 Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention.....(517) 372-6666
 Social Security Administration.....(800) 772-1213
 State SSI Supplement(800) 481-4774
 Substance Abuse Hotline(800) 662-4357
 Suicide Prevention Crisis Hotline.....(800) 273-8255
 TAX statements for Adult Home Help(800) 292-2550
 THAW – The Heat and Warmth Fund(800) 866-THAW (8429)
 Volunteers of America Michigan.....(248) 945-0101

STATE SENATOR • DEMOCRAT JEREMY MOSS

SenatorMoss.com | SenJMoss@senate.michigan.gov | (855) 347-8011

Dear Friend,

It's my sincere hope that this newsletter finds you and your families safe and healthy.

Michigan seniors are a particularly resilient group who have earned the right to enjoy their future with dignity and financial security. As your State Senator, my goal is to make sure you can focus on what matters most to you, and I'm working hard in Lansing to ensure that we provide the stability you deserve.

Every letter, email, and call to our office has helped me to better represent you, and I hope to continue hearing from you. If you would like to share your ideas or need assistance regarding state government, you can contact my office by calling me toll-free at **(855) DIST011 (855-347-8011)** or **(517) 373-7888**. You can also email me at **SenJMoss@senate.michigan.gov**.



Working for You,

Jeremy Moss

Jeremy Moss, Democrat
 State Senator, District 11
 Assistant Democratic Leader

Meals on Wheels

Oakland Meals on Wheels
(248) 689-0001 | info@oaklandmow.org

No one should go without access to healthy meals. If you, or a senior you know, are struggling to pay for food, Meals on Wheels can help.

This program provides five nutritious meals per week to homebound, older adults. They also offer liquid nutrition for those who are unable to eat solid food and who have a prescription from their physician.

To qualify for Meals on Wheels, an adult must be:

- 60 years of age or older;
- Homebound (e.g. unable to leave home without assistance and unable to drive);
- Unable to cook for themselves;
- Have no one willing or available to prepare meals on a regular basis; and,
- Able to feed themselves.

For more information or to determine if you're eligible for Meals on Wheels, contact Oakland Meals on Wheels at **(248) 689-0001**.



Oakland County SENIOR SERVICES

27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield, MI 48076
(248) 424-7000 | health@oakgov.com

If you're looking for information about aging well, check out the seniors' section of the Oakland County Health Division's website at **oakgov.com/health/partnerships/seniors**. Many resources are available for housing, health, medical, legal issues, and local services, as well as other valuable information. Be sure to check out their Senior Resource Directory — it's quite comprehensive and a good reference!

This year, on **June 6, 2022**, I will host my annual senior summit. The event will be held at the **Southfield Pavilion at Southfield City Hall from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about their legal rights, services available to seniors, how to avoid scams, and how to avoid having their identity stolen, among other topics from various organizations and agencies. This annual event is informative and a great way for you to ask questions and share updates on issues that are important to you. Be sure to sign up for my e-newsletter by visiting my website at **SenatorMoss.com** or by calling my office at **(517) 373-7888**.

SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY • JUNE 6 • 2-4 PM

ANNUAL SENIOR SUMMIT



Prepared by the Michigan Legislature.

JM0422

State Senator
Jeremy Moss
 P.O. Box 30036
 Lansing, MI 48909-7536



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MAKE SURE YOUR HEALTH IS COVERED WITH MEDICARE

Medicare is the federal government program that provides health care coverage if you are age 65 or older, under age 65 and receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) for a certain amount of time, or under age 65 and living with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Multiple options for insurance coverage are offered — including planning for hospital stays, medical costs, or prescription drugs. In addition, Medicare Advantage through private insurance is available to those who need, or want, additional health care coverage options.

The Medicare Open Enrollment Period for the year 2023 is from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2022. During this window, you can reevaluate your coverage and make changes or purchase new policies. Enrolling in Medicare is easy since many people are automatically enrolled. If not, you can enroll online in just a few minutes. Simply fill out a Medicare application through the Social Security website at [SSA.gov/Benefits/Medicare](https://www.ssa.gov/Benefits/Medicare).

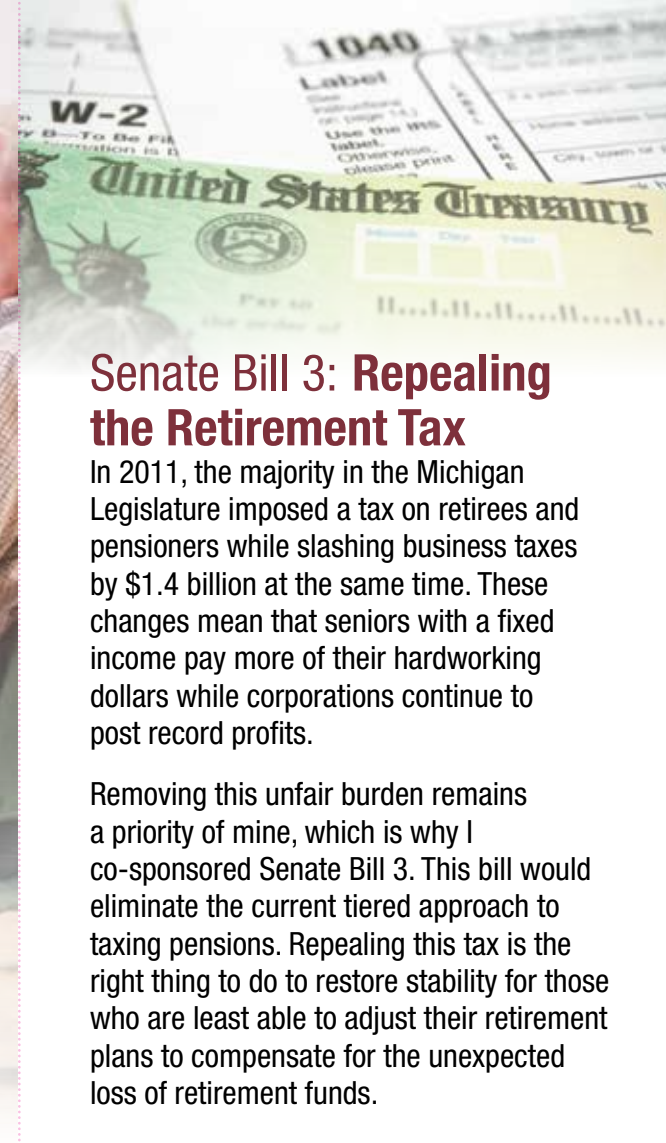
Resources and answers about your Medicare coverage can be found at [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov). Here, you can make an account to view your claims status, pay your Medicare premiums, and much more. The website also has lots of resources for choosing coverage, such as their “Medicare & You” handbook, and has a locator so you can find health care providers near you. If you would rather talk to someone on the phone, you can get help by calling (800) 633-4227.

2023 Medicare Open Enrollment Period : Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2022.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MEDICARE SCAMS

The Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) have some important tips for protecting yourself:

- **Never give your Medicare number or other personal information to an unknown caller.** You are always able to get information on Medicare plans without providing an ID number. The only time the Medicare ID number is required is when you are actively enrolling in a plan.
- **Do not give out your personal information if someone calls or visits your home and says they're from Medicare.** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will never call or send someone to your home to ask for personal information or check your Medicare number.
- **Don't trust caller ID.** Scammers use technology to make it look like they are calling from a legitimate business or government agency.
- **Be cautious of anyone who calls saying you must join their prescription drug plan.** The Medicare prescription drug plan (also known as Part D) is voluntary coverage. You are not required to have it to keep your Medicare, however if you do choose Part D you must enroll within a certain timeframe or risk a penalty.



Senate Bill 3: Repealing the Retirement Tax

In 2011, the majority in the Michigan Legislature imposed a tax on retirees and pensioners while slashing business taxes by \$1.4 billion at the same time. These changes mean that seniors with a fixed income pay more of their hardworking dollars while corporations continue to post record profits.

Removing this unfair burden remains a priority of mine, which is why I co-sponsored Senate Bill 3. This bill would eliminate the current tiered approach to taxing pensions. Repealing this tax is the right thing to do to restore stability for those who are least able to adjust their retirement plans to compensate for the unexpected loss of retirement funds.



Senate Bill 586: Home Modification Tax Credit

I introduced Senate Bill 586 to lift the financial burden from those seeking to live an independent life by providing a tax credit to homeowners who retrofit their homes to meet accessibility standards. Many existing homes across communities in our district were not built to accommodate those with physical limitations or seniors wishing to age in place. I am working to move this bill through the Senate and into law.

LOWERING THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The high cost of prescription drugs is a direct threat to the health and welfare of Michiganders and can leave patients struggling to make difficult decisions between basic life expenses based on their budget. While many of the most impactful legislative changes on controlling the cost of prescription drugs must be addressed at the federal level, as a state we need to develop creative solutions. I am committed to finding ways we can address this growing issue.

That's why I support the following bills:

Senate Bills 889-892

This bill package would create a Prescription Drug Affordability Board to review the cost of prescription drugs and establishing payment limits on the most expensive drugs.

House Bill 4346

This bill would cap the co-pay for prescription insulin at a maximum of \$50 per 30-day supply.

House Bills 4348, 4351, and 4352

Gov. Whitmer signed these bills into law to lower the cost of prescription drugs and require pharmacy benefit managers (PBM), who manage prescription drug benefits for insurers, to be licensed, regulated and file reports with the state regarding costs and profits of prescribed medications. Additionally, the new law prohibits requiring a patient to pay a co-pay that is higher than the selling cost of the drug.

Here is some information that you may find useful as you head to the pharmacy:

- **Know your rights:** Michigan law requires pharmacies to share drug prices with consumers.
- **Compare prices:** The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services maintains [MichiganDrugPrices.com](https://www.michiganDrugPrices.com), which allows you to compare and save money without ever stepping foot in a pharmacy.
- **Prescription discount cards:** The MiRx (My Prescription) Card is a prescription drug discount program for Michigan residents who do not have prescription drug coverage. The program is free; there is no cost for the card or to enroll. MiRx cardholders can fill their prescription at their local participating pharmacy and charge the MiRx discounted price. The discount covers any medicine the pharmacist stocks and that your doctor prescribes, except for over-the-counter drugs. For more information, please visit MIHealth.org/MiRx.

Pharmacies often also offer free discount cards to consumers who do not have insurance or who have very high co-pays. While these discount cards can offer significant savings, it is important to be aware that companies will sometimes use these cards as a scam to require you to pay more in the long run.