



NEWS

**From the Office of
Representative Mike Lair**

7th District

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Rep. Lair Sponsors Free Discussions to Assist with Medicare Part D Enrollment

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Rep. Mike Lair, R-Chillicothe, is working to help seniors in his district with rising medical costs by assisting them with enrollment in the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. Lair is sponsoring a series of free discussions to help area residents choose the plan that best fits their needs. Lair, who will greet attendees at each event, is partnering with CLAIM, Missouri's State Health Insurance Assistance Program, to provide the forums.

Lair said it's important to educate people because the time for making changes – including signing up for new prescription-drug plans – comes earlier this year for people on Medicare. The open-enrollment period for Medicare Part D, the federal prescription-drug program, is from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7.

Those eligible for Medicare's prescription drug program can get free expert help at the events Lair is sponsoring in November.

Dates and locations for the free discussions are as follows:

- Nov. 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Carrollton Public Library - 1 N. Folger, Carrollton, MO 64633
- Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Chillicothe Senior Center - 607 W. Old Hwy 36 Chillicothe, MO 64601

There are a limited number of spots at this enrollment session -- reservations are encouraged. Spaces can be reserved by calling CLAIM at 1-800-390-3330.

All Medicare beneficiaries are eligible for Part D coverage, but they must enroll first. People enrolled in Part D still pay out-of-pocket costs for their prescriptions, but there is an additional program meant to help those who have trouble doing so. Called Extra Help, this program reduces prescription-drug costs for Medicare patients who meet low-income guidelines.

Lair said many Medicare beneficiaries do not know about the program and that thousands of eligible Missourians are missing out on help paying for their prescription drugs. His goal is to ensure all those eligible in his district take advantage of the program.

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