

**Important Notice to Alabama Consumers of Home Medical Equipment
From the
Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment**

July 17, 2014

On March 11, 2014, Governor Robert Bentley signed HB 226 into law. Among its provisions, Act 2014-172 requires all home medical equipment licensees to have a physical location in Alabama. Out-of-state home medical equipment service providers are, therefore, no longer eligible for licensure in Alabama unless they have established an in-state business location that meets the requirements of the Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment (unless otherwise exempt). All currently licensed out-of-state home medical equipment service providers have been notified of this new requirement, provided with instructions for compliance and reminded of their responsibilities to patients under state and federal law.

Out-of-state licensees who do not meet the requirements for an in-state location by August 31, 2014, will be unable to provide continued services to Alabama consumers after that date (unless otherwise mandated under federal law). These companies are responsible for notifying their Alabama patients of their intention to discontinue services as of a certain date and/or referring them to another licensed home medical equipment service provider to ensure there will be no interruption in the products and services patients receive.

Please contact the Board office at 334-215-3474 if you need additional assistance in locating a licensed in-state provider. Also, a license roster is available at www.homemed.alabama.gov with a search by city for your convenience and protection, to assist you in obtaining home medical equipment and services from a licensed provider, as required by state law.