

# The Daily Progress

## Fighting for every penny

A [\\$40](#) medical bill might seem small but a [West Virginia](#) man says his five-year battle over paying it was a matter of principle.

[Sam Juniper](#) says his health benefits weren't supposed to change after he retired in 2000 from M&G Polymers.

But he received a [\\$40](#) bill in 2002 after the company's new provider, [Aetna Insurance](#), refused to cover the cost of some blood work.

He challenged that in [Mason County](#) court in 2003 and won every decision all the way to the 4th U.S. Circuit [Court of Appeals](#) in [Richmond, Va.](#) The appeals court ruled in his favor on Oct. 10.

[Lawyer Mark Underwood](#) handled Juniper's case for free and says small bills like this add up over time.

[Juniper](#) says he is still waiting for his [\\$40](#) refund check, which he plans to frame and hang on his wall.