

EMERITUS CORP\WA\  
Form 425  
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Filed by Brookdale Senior Living Inc.

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of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: Emeritus Corporation

(Commission File No. 001-14012)

On April 17, 2014, Brookdale and Emeritus issued the following release in connection with the merger between Brookdale and Emeritus:

### **Brookdale Senior Living and Emeritus Senior Living Announce Expiration of HSR Act Waiting Period**

Nashville, Tenn. and Seattle, Wash., April 17, 2014 Brookdale Senior Living Inc. (NYSE: BKD) and Emeritus Corporation (NYSE: ESC) today announced the expiration of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, in connection with the previously announced proposed merger of Brookdale and Emeritus.

Andy Smith, Brookdale's Chief Executive Officer, said, "The expiration of the HSR Act waiting period satisfies one of the conditions to the closing of the proposed merger. We continue to work expeditiously to satisfy the other closing conditions and still expect to close the merger in the third quarter of 2014."

#### **About Brookdale Senior Living**

Brookdale Senior Living Inc. is a leading owner and operator of senior living communities throughout the United States. The Company is committed to providing senior living solutions within properties that are designed, purpose-built and operated to provide the highest-quality service, care and living accommodations for residents. Currently Brookdale operates independent living, assisted living, and dementia-care communities and continuing care retirement centers, with 648 communities in 36 states and the ability to serve approximately 67,000 residents. Through its ancillary services program, the Company also offers a range of outpatient therapy, home health, personalized living and hospice services. After its pending merger with Emeritus Corporation, Brookdale will operate approximately 1,161 communities in 46 states with the capacity to serve approximately 113,000 residents

#### **About Emeritus**

Emeritus Senior Living is the nation's largest assisted living and memory care provider, with the ability to serve nearly 54,000 residents. Over 31,000 employees support more than 500 communities throughout 45 states coast to coast. Emeritus offers the spectrum of senior residential choices, care options and life enrichment programs that fulfill individual needs and promote purposeful living throughout the aging process. Its experts provide insights on senior living, care, wellness, brain health, caregiving and family topics at [www.emeritus.com](http://www.emeritus.com), which also offers details on the organization's services.

**Safe Harbor**

Certain items in this press release and statements made by or on behalf of Brookdale Senior Living Inc. and Emeritus Corporation relating hereto (including statements with respect to the merger of Brookdale and Emeritus) may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of forward-looking terminology such as may, will, should,

potential, intend, expect, endeavor, seek, anticipate, estimate, overestimate, underestimate, believe, project, predict, continue, plan or other similar words or expressions. Although we believe the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained and actual results could differ materially from those projected. Factors which could have a material adverse effect on our operations and future prospects or which could cause events or circumstances to differ from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the risk associated with the current global economic situation and its impact upon capital markets and liquidity; changes in governmental reimbursement programs; our inability to extend (or refinance) debt (including our credit and letter of credit facilities) as it matures; the risk that we may not be able to satisfy the conditions precedent to exercising the extension options associated with certain of our debt agreements; events which adversely affect the ability of seniors to afford our monthly resident fees or entrance fees; the conditions of housing markets in certain geographic areas; our ability to generate sufficient cash flow to cover required interest and long-term operating lease payments; the effect of our indebtedness and long-term operating leases on our liquidity; the risk of loss of property pursuant to our mortgage debt and long-term lease obligations; the possibilities that changes in the capital markets, including changes in interest rates and/or credit spreads, or other factors could make financing more expensive or unavailable to us; our determination from time to time to purchase any shares under the repurchase program; our ability to fund any repurchases; our ability to effectively manage our growth; our ability to maintain consistent quality control; delays in obtaining regulatory approvals; the risk that we may not be able to expand, redevelop and reposition our communities in accordance with our plans; our ability to complete acquisitions and integrate them into our operations; competition for the acquisition of assets; our ability to obtain additional capital on terms acceptable to us; a decrease in the overall demand for senior housing; our vulnerability to economic downturns; acts of nature in certain geographic areas; terminations of our resident agreements and vacancies in the living spaces we lease; early terminations or non-renewal of management agreements; increased competition for skilled personnel; increased union activity; departure of our key officers; increases in market interest rates; environmental contamination at any of our facilities; failure to comply with existing environmental laws; an adverse determination or resolution of complaints filed against us; the cost and difficulty of complying with increasing and evolving regulation; risks relating to the merger of Brookdale and Emeritus, including in respect of the satisfaction of closing conditions to the merger; unanticipated difficulties and/or expenditures relating to the merger; the risk that regulatory approvals required for the merger are not obtained or are obtained subject to conditions that are not anticipated; uncertainties as to the timing of the merger; litigation relating to the merger; the impact of the transaction on each company's relationships with residents, employees and third parties; and the inability to obtain, or delays in obtaining cost savings and synergies from the merger; as well as other risks detailed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. We expressly disclaim any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

**Additional Information and Where to Find It**

In connection with the merger, Brookdale plans to file with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-4 that will include a joint proxy statement of Brookdale and Emeritus that also constitutes a prospectus of Brookdale, as well as other relevant documents concerning the proposed transaction. **STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS REGARDING THE MERGER WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.** A free copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other filings containing information about Brookdale and Emeritus Corporation may be obtained at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>). You will also be able to obtain these documents, free of charge, from Brookdale at [www.brookdale.com](http://www.brookdale.com) under the heading "About Brookdale / Investor Relations" or from Emeritus Corporation at [www.emeritus.com](http://www.emeritus.com) under the heading "Investors."

Brookdale and Emeritus Corporation and their respective directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Brookdale's and Emeritus Corporation's stockholders in connection with the merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of Brookdale and their ownership of Brookdale common stock is set forth in the proxy statement for Brookdale's 2013 annual meeting of stockholders, as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A on April 30, 2013. Information about the directors and executive officers of Emeritus Corporation and their ownership of Emeritus Corporation common stock is set forth in the proxy statement for Emeritus Corporation's 2013 annual meeting of stockholders, as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A on April 9, 2013. Additional information regarding the interests of those participants and other persons who may be deemed participants in the merger may be obtained by reading the joint proxy statement regarding the merger when it becomes available. Free copies of this document may be obtained as described in the preceding paragraph. This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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