

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 268

7 H.P. 220

House of Representatives, January 25, 1983

8 Received by the Clerk of the House on January 25, 1983. Referred to the
9 Committee on Health and Institutional Services, and ordered printed pursuant
10 to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Rolde of York.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Amend the Medicaid Copayment
18 Law.
19

20 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
21 follows:

22 22 MRSA §3173-C, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1981,
23 c. 703, Pt. A, §24, is further amended to read:

24 1. Prescription drug services. A payment of 50¢
25 is to be collected from the Medicaid recipient for
26 each drug prescription which is an approved Medicaid
27 service, except prescriptions utilized for family
28 planning services, unless the Medicaid recipient is
29 in the custody of the State or unless that
30 recipient's income is assessed and applied to reduce
31 the cost of his medical care, or unless the prescrip-
32 tion is to correct or ameliorate defects and chronic
33 conditions discovered through the early and periodic
34 screening and diagnosis of individuals who are under
35 the age of 21.

1 In those situations where the 50¢ copayment is exempt
2 from being collected by this or other state statutes,
3 state regulation or federal statutes or regulations,
4 the Department of Human Services shall include the
5 exempted 50¢ in its fee payment to the provider phar-
6 macy.

7 STATEMENT OF FACT

8 The Medicaid dispensing fee for prescription
9 drugs is presently \$3.20. A pharmacy receives \$2.70
10 from the Department of Human Services, plus 50¢ from
11 the recipient when it fills a Medicaid prescription,
12 except when the recipient is exempt from the
13 copayment, then the pharmacy receives the full \$3.20
14 from the department.

15 Recent changes in federal law may increase the
16 number of people eligible for a copayment exemption,
17 as well as adding confusion and difficulty to admin-
18 istering regulations regarding exemptions.

19 This bill insures that a pharmacy will receive
20 the full \$3.20 dispensing fee when serving a Medicaid
21 patient who is exempt by federal or state law or
22 regulation.

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