

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1177
6

7 H.P. 833

House of Representatives, March 29, 1985

8 Speaker laid before the House and on motion of Representative Nelson
9 of Portland, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial
Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Duffy of Bangor.

11 Cosponsored by Representative McGowan of Canaan, Representative
Ruhlin of Brewer and Senator Bustin of Kennebec.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Provide for Certain Discounts on
18 Over-the-counter Medication Purchased
19 by Elderly Persons.
20

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

23 22 MRSa §254, first ¶, as amended by PL 1983, c.
24 290, is further amended to read:

25 The Department of Human Services may conduct a
26 program to provide low cost prescription and
27 nonprescription drugs, medication and medical sup-
28 plies to disadvantaged, elderly individuals. The
29 program shall provide that any nonprescription drug
30 recommended to a patient by a physician, as evidenced
31 by a form signed by the physician and presented at
32 the time of purchase of the drug, shall be made
33 available to persons eligible under the program at
34 the same cost as any prescription drug which is
35 available under the program. The commissioner is re-
36 quired to provide for sufficient personnel to ensure

1 efficient administration of the program. The extent
2 and the magnitude of this program will be determined
3 by the Commissioner of Human Services and will be de-
4 termined on the basis of the calculated need of the
5 recipient population and the available funds. The de-
6 partment may not spend more on the conduct of this
7 program than is available either through appropri-
8 ations from the General Fund, dedicated revenue, fed-
9 eral or other grants and other established and com-
10 mitted funding sources. The commissioner may accept
11 for the purposes of carrying out this program federal
12 funds appropriated under any federal law relating to
13 the furnishing of free or low cost drugs to the dis-
14 advantaged, elderly individuals and do such acts as
15 are necessary for the purposes of carrying out such
16 federal law; and accept from any other agency of gov-
17 ernment, individual, group or corporation such funds
18 as may be available to carry out this chapter.

19

STATEMENT OF FACT

20 The purpose of this bill is to require that the
21 department include all nonprescription drugs recom-
22 mended by a physician under the Elderly Low Cost Drug
23 Program.

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