

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1811
6

7 H.P. 1295

House of Representatives, January 13, 1986

8 Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
9 pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

10 Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Duffy of Bangor.

11 Cosponsored by Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Senator Clark of
Cumberland and Senator Baldacci of Penobscot.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Include Drugs for Treating
18 Arthritis in the Elderly Low Cost Drug
19 Program.
20

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

23 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §254, first ¶, as amended by PL
24 1983, c. 290, is repealed and the following enacted
25 in its place:

26 The Department of Human Services may conduct a
27 program to provide low cost prescription and
28 nonprescription drugs, medication and medical sup-
29 plies to disadvantaged, elderly individuals. In any
30 year in which this program is conducted, it shall in-
31 clude any prescription drugs used for the treatment
32 of arthritis. To fund the addition of drugs for this
33 ailment, the amount that a recipient pays toward the
34 cost of any covered purchase shall be raised \$1 for
35 the entire program. If, after any results of the ar-
36 thritis program appear to be reflected in the expend-

1 itures for the total program, it is projected that
2 the funding for the total program will be inadequate
3 for the remainder of the fiscal year, that part of
4 the program dealing with arthritis shall be discon-
5 tinued for the remainder of the fiscal year. The de-
6 partment shall keep cost and utilization records nec-
7 essary to evaluate the arthritis program and report
8 on this arthritis program to the Legislature by Janu-
9 ary, 1988.

10 The commissioner is required to provide for suf-
11 ficient personnel to ensure efficient administration
12 of the program. The extent and the magnitude of this
13 program shall be determined by the Commissioner of
14 Human Services and shall be determined on the basis
15 of the calculated need of the recipient population
16 and the available funds. The department may not
17 spend more on the conduct of this program than is
18 available either through appropriations from the Gen-
19 eral Fund, dedicated revenue, federal or other grants
20 and other established and committed funding sources.
21 The commissioner may accept for the purposes of car-
22 rying out this program federal funds appropriated un-
23 der any federal law relating to the furnishing of
24 free or low cost drugs to disadvantaged, elderly in-
25 dividuals and take such action as is necessary for
26 the purposes of carrying out that federal law and ac-
27 cept from any other agency of government, individual,
28 group or corporation such funds as may be available
29 to carry out this chapter.

30 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are
31 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
32 purposes of this Act.

33 1986-87

34 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

35 Elderly Low Cost Drug Program

36 All Other

\$100,000

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to require that the department include all prescription drugs recommended by a physician for arthritis under the Elderly Low Cost Drug Program.

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