

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2062

(Filing No. H- 651)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

7 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1512, L.D. 2062,
8 Bill, "AN ACT to Increase the Minimum Standards for
9 Eligibility for the Elderly Low-Cost Drug Program and
10 the Household Tax and Rent Refund Act."

11 Amend the bill by striking out everything after
12 the enacting clause and inserting in its place the
13 following:

14 'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6162-A, sub-§2, as enacted by
15 PL 1987, c. 528, §2, is repealed and the following
16 enacted in its place:

17 2. Income. Individuals qualify under this
18 program if they meet the income levels for eligibility
19 for elderly households under chapter 907.

20 Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6201, sub-§8, as enacted by PL
21 1987, c. 516, §§3 and 6, is amended to read:

22 8. Household income eligibility adjustment
23 factor. "Household income eligibility adjustment
24 factor" means one plus the annualized cost-of-living
25 adjustments for Social Security retirement benefits
26 during the year for which relief is requested the
27 percentage change in the Consumer Price Index, not
28 seasonally adjusted, published monthly by the Bureau
29 of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor
30 designated as the National Consumers United States'

1 city average during the year for which relief is
2 requested.

3 Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §6209, sub-§1, as enacted by PL
4 1987, c. 516, §§3 and 6, is amended to read:

5 1. Elderly households. Beginning March 1, 1989,
6 and annually thereafter, the State Tax Assessor shall
7 determine the household income eligibility adjustment
8 factor. That factor shall be multiplied by the income
9 limitations in section sections 6206 and 6207,
10 applicable for the year prior to that for which relief
11 is requested. The result shall be rounded to the
12 nearest \$100 and shall apply to the year for which
13 relief is requested corresponding to the year on which
14 the annualized cost of living cost-of-living
15 adjustments were based.

16 Sec. 4. Appropriation. The following funds are
17 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
18 purposes of this Act.

19		<u>1988-89</u>
20	<u>HUMAN SERVICES,</u>	
21	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>	
22	Bureau of Medical Services -	
23	Elderly Low-Cost Drug Program	
24	All Other	\$792,000

25 FISCAL NOTE

26 This amendment ties eligibility for the elderly
27 low-cost drug program to the household tax and rent
28 refund eligibility requirements. This will result in
29 an additional 7,200 eligible individuals at an
30 estimated cost of \$110 each, for a total cost of
31 \$792,000. There is also a potential future cost to
32 the extent that the change to a Consumer Price Index
33 adjustment exceeds the current income eligibility
34 adjustment factor.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1512, L.D. 2062

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This amendment ties the eligibilty for low-cost
3 drugs to the household tax and rent refund eligibility
4 standards, requires the standards to be indexed to the
5 percent change in the Consumer Price Index and adds a
6 fiscal note. These new income eligibility standards
7 are \$7,400 for single member elderly households and
8 \$9,200 for elderly households with 2 or more members.

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Reported by the Committee on Taxation
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House
4/8/88 (Filing No. H-651)