

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 290

H.P. 210

House of Representatives, February 21, 1989

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

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.

Cosponsored by Representative RYDELL of Brunswick, Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake and Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

An Act to Amend the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program.



1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

3 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §254, first ¶,** as repealed and replaced by PL
5 1987, c. 746, is amended to read:

7 The Department of Human Services may conduct a program to
9 provide low-cost prescription and nonprescription drugs,
11 medication and medical supplies to disadvantaged, elderly
13 individuals. In any year in which this program is conducted, it
15 shall include any prescription drugs used for the treatment of
17 chronic obstructive lung disease. To fund the addition of drugs
19 for this ailment, the amount that a recipient pays toward the
21 cost of any covered purchase shall be ~~\$3~~ \$2. If the initial
projections for expenditures in the chronic obstructive lung
disease program indicate that funding for the total program will
be inadequate for the remainder of the fiscal year, that part of
the program dealing with chronic obstructive lung disease shall
be discontinued for the remainder of the fiscal year. The
department shall keep cost and utilization records necessary to
evaluate the chronic obstructive lung disease program and report
on this program to the Legislature by January 1989.

23 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §254, 2nd ¶,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 746, is
25 amended to read:

27 In any year in which this program is conducted, it shall
29 also include antiarthritic drugs and the amount that a recipient
pays toward the cost of any such covered purchase shall be ~~\$10~~ \$2.

31 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §254, sub-§4-A,** as amended by PL 1983, c. 290,
is further amended to read:

33 **4-A. Payment for drugs provided.** The commissioner may
35 establish the amount of payment to be made by recipients toward
37 the cost of prescription or nonprescription drugs, medication and
39 medical supplies furnished under this program provided that the
total cost for any covered purchase of a prescription or
nonprescription drug or medication does not exceed \$2; and

41 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

43 This bill places a \$2 limit on the amount of payment to be
45 made by recipients toward the cost of a prescription or
nonprescription drug or medication to help ease the burden of
medical costs for the elderly who are eligible for this program.