

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1023

H.P. 733

House of Representatives, February 9, 1999

**An Act to Increase Eligibility Levels for Access to Prescription Drugs
for the Elderly.**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro.
Cosponsored by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin and
Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, MAYO of Bath, MURPHY of Kennebunk,
SCHNEIDER of Durham, THOMPSON of Naples, TRUE of Fryeburg, Senators: AMERO of
Cumberland, PENDLETON of Cumberland.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6162-A, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. RR, §6, is further amended to read:

2. **Income.** Eligibility for this program is determined by the same income levels as eligibility for elderly households is determined under chapter 907, except that individuals are also eligible for this program if the household spends at least 40% of its income on unreimbursed direct medical expenses for prescription drugs and the household income is not more than 25% higher than the levels specified in chapter 907. For the purposes of this subsection, the costs of drugs provided to a household under this chapter is considered a cost spent by the household for eligibility determination purposes. Notwithstanding this subsection, an elderly individual is eligible for this program if the individual's sole source of income is from Social Security benefits.

SUMMARY

This bill makes an elderly individual eligible for the elderly low cost drug program if the individual's sole source of income is Social Security benefits.