

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. of S.

L.D. 1203

DATE: May 27, 1999

(Filing No. S- 359)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 414, L.D. 1203, Bill, "An Act to Increase Access to Prescription Drugs for the Elderly and for Disabled Persons"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §254, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1983, c. 290, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Individuals eligible for participation. An individual who is a legal resident of this State at the time the application is filed is eligible under this program if the requirements of this subsection are met.

A. The individual's household income, as defined in Title 36, section 6201, subsection 7, may not exceed 185% of the nonfarm income official poverty line, except that the household income may exceed that amount by up to 25% if the household spends at least 40% of its income on unreimbursed direct medical expenses for prescription drugs.

(1) The nonfarm income official poverty line is that applicable to a household of the size involved, as defined by the poverty guidelines in the Federal Register by the federal Department of Health and Human Services under authority of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, Section 673(2).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " " to S.P. 414, L.D. 1203

2 program, for additional
 3 printing and mailing costs
 4 and initial computer
 programming costs.

6 **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE
 AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

8 **TOTAL** \$126,813 \$87,218

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12 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

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14 **Bureau of Medical Services**

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16	Positions - Legislative Count	(1,500)	(1,500)
16	Personal Services	\$43,880	\$58,505
18	All Other	11,000	5,000
20	TOTAL	<u>\$54,880</u>	<u>\$63,505</u>

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22 Provides funds for a
 full-time Pharmacist
 24 position, a part-time Medical
 Care Coordinator position and
 26 related operating costs to
 support increased access to
 28 prescription drugs.

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30 **Low-cost Drugs to Maine's Elderly**

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32	All Other	\$6,030,264	\$8,683,579
34	Provides funds for the additional costs associated with increased eligibility under this program.		

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40 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
 TOTAL**

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\$6,085,144 \$8,747,084

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44 **TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS**

\$6,211,957 \$8,834,302

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Sec. 5. Effective date. This Act takes effect October 1, 1999.'

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Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
 summary the following:

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

FISCAL NOTE

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1999-00

2000-01

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APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

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General Fund

\$6,211,957

\$8,834,302

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This bill includes total General Fund appropriations of \$6,211,957 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$8,834,302 in fiscal year 2000-01 to fund the costs associated with the expansion of the number of persons eligible for the elderly low-cost drug program.

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The Department of Human Services will incur additional administrative costs associated with this expansion of \$54,880 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$63,505 in fiscal year 2000-01. The estimated increases in the costs to be paid by the department associated with the increased eligibility are estimated to be \$6,030,264 and \$8,683,579 in fiscal years 1999-00 and 2000-01, respectively.

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The Bureau of Revenue Services will incur additional administrative costs of \$126,813 and \$87,218 in fiscal years 1999-00 and 2000-01, respectively. These additional costs include a Tax Examiner position and related expenses to audit the additional applications for this program, the printing and postage costs of additional applications and booklets, the costs of mailing out additional cards and the additional costs for some initial computer programming.'

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SUMMARY

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The amendment deletes portions of the bill that increased income eligibility for the elderly low-cost drug program above 185% of the federal poverty line and expanded the drugs covered to the full range of drugs provided in the Medicaid program. The amendment retains the provisions that increased income eligibility for the elderly low-cost drug program to 185% of the federal poverty line. It authorizes consideration of current year income in the event of a documentable change in income of more than 10% from the prior year. It contains an effective date of October 1, 1999. It adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note.

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