

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 1026, L.D. 2599, Bill, "An Act to Establish Fairer Pricing for Prescription Drugs"

Amend the amendment on page 9 by inserting after the first indented paragraph the following:

'Further amend the bill by inserting after Part B the following:

PART C

Sec. C-1. Commission established. The Commission to Study Tax Credits for Prescription Drugs, referred to in this Part as the "commission," is established.

Sec. C-2. Commission membership. The commission consists of the following members:

1. One Senator who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, appointed by the President of the Senate;

2. One Senator who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, appointed by the President of the Senate;

3. Three members of the House of Representatives who serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

4. Three members of the House of Representatives who serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

5. One representative of pharmaceutical manufacturers, appointed by the Governor;

6. One public member representing consumer interests, appointed by the Governor; and

7. One representative from the Bureau of Revenue Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, appointed by the Governor.

Sec. C-3. Chairs. The first named Senate member is the Senate chair of the commission and the first named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.

Sec. C-4. Appointments; meetings. All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Part. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing authorities once the selections have been made. When the appointment of all members has been completed, the chairs of the commission shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission no later than June 15, 2000.

Sec. C-5. Duties. The commission shall study the implications of and feasibility of establishing a state tax credit for prescription drugs.

Sec. C-6. Staff assistance. Upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission.

Sec. C-7. Compensation. The members of the commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Other members of the commission who are not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings.

Sec. C-8. Report. The commission shall submit its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than December 31, 2000. If the commission requires a limited extension of time to conclude its work, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

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HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 1026,
L.D. 2599

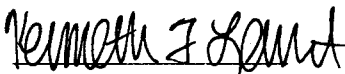
existing budgeted resources. If the commission requires staffing assistance during the legislative session, the Legislature may require an additional General Fund appropriation to contract for staff services.

The additional costs associated with participating as a member of the commission can be absorbed by the Bureau of Revenue Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services utilizing existing budgeted resources.

SUMMARY

This amendment establishes the Commission to Study Tax Credits for Prescription Drugs to study the implications of and feasibility of establishing a state tax credit for prescription drugs.

SPONSORED BY:


(Representative LEMONT)

TOWN: Kittery