

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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H. O. S.

L.D. 2644

DATE: 4-6-00

(Filing No. H-1088)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1900, L.D. 2644, Bill, "An Act Relating to Eligibility for the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program"

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-§11, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 551, §2, is amended to read:

11. Retention of eligibility. A person who was eligible for the program at any time from August 1, 1998 to July 31, 1999 and who does not meet the requirements of subsection 10 retains eligibility for the program until ~~February 28, 2001~~ if that person is a member of a household of an eligible person.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6162-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. KKK, §5 and affected by §10 and c. 531, Pt. F, §2, is amended to read:

2. Limitation. An individual does not qualify under this program if that individual receives state supplemental income benefits or Medicaid pharmaceutical benefits.'

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

FISCAL NOTE

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This bill will continue the determination of eligibility for the elderly low-cost drug program based on status as a member of an eligible household, the status used prior to the changes implemented by Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part KKK. Amounts budgeted for the expansion of the eligibility for this program by Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part KKK are sufficient to fund this continuation, as the estimates of the fiscal impact of that change did not include any assumptions for individuals becoming ineligible. Neither the number of individuals affected by this bill nor the amount of unanticipated savings to be foregone can be determined at this time.

The Bureau of Revenue Services will incur some minor additional costs to implement these changes to the eligibility standards for the elderly low-cost drug program. These costs can be absorbed within the bureau's existing budgeted resources.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. Current law provides that a person who was eligible for the elderly low-cost drug program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 254 at any time from August 1, 1998 to July 31, 1999 retains eligibility until February 28, 2001 if that person is a member of a household of an eligible person. This amendment continues such eligibility beyond February 28, 2001. The amendment clarifies that those persons who receive Medicaid benefits who are ineligible for the elderly low-cost drug program are those who receive Medicaid pharmaceutical benefits.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note.