

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1005

S.P. 294

In Senate, February 20, 2001

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### **An Act to Inform Consumers About Prescription Drug Prices.**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative FULLER of Manchester and  
Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, EDMONDS of Cumberland, RAND of Cumberland,  
TREAT of Kennebec, Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, TARAZEWICH of Waterboro.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §258** is enacted to read:

6 **§258. Notice of commonly used drug prices**

8 The department shall select among the 100 most commonly used  
10 prescription drugs those drugs that have therapeutic equivalents  
12 at a competitive price. The department shall regularly collect  
14 the retail prices of such drugs and publicize their prices in the  
16 media on a regular basis and in a manner that allows patients and  
18 their health care providers to comparison shop.

20 **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to regularly publish drug price information of commonly used prescription drugs in a manner that will allow patients and their health care providers to better choose therapeutically equivalent, but less costly, drugs.