

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1768

S.P. 592

In Senate, April 5, 2001

**An Act to Create a Comprehensive Prescription Insurance Plan for
Maine Seniors through the Implementation of the Recommendations of
the Heinz Family Philanthropies Report.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President Pro Tem BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by President MICHAUD of Penobscot, Senator TURNER of Cumberland,
Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, DUGAY of Cherryfield, FULLER of Manchester,
NUTTING of Oakland, SCHNEIDER of Durham.

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

**CONCEPT DRAFT
SUMMARY**

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to create a comprehensive prescription insurance plan for senior citizens of the State in accordance with the recommendations of the Heinz Family Philanthropies study regarding prescription drugs.

The plan would include the following requirements:

1. All Maine citizens 62 years of age and older would be eligible;

2. The plan would be means tested. Premiums, copayments, deductibles and a catastrophic cap would all be tied to income levels and the consumer price index. Persons with the lowest income levels would also have the lowest catastrophic cap;

3. In determining the premiums, deductibles and catastrophic caps for married couples based on household income, a reduction would be given so that those couples are not penalized or disadvantaged;

4. A formulary based on incentives would be established with generic, preferred and nonpreferred drugs;

5. If a generic drug is available, a brand-name drug may be obtained only by paying the difference in cost between the generic and brand-name medication;

6. "Lifestyle" drugs would be excluded from the plan; and

7. The plan would sunset after 4 full fiscal years.