

SENATE, No. 571

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1996

By Senator BASSANO

1 AN ACT concerning copayments in the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to  
2 the Aged and Disabled" program, amending P.L.1979, c.27 and  
3 supplementing P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.).  
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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
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8 1. (New Section) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of  
9 P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-22) to the contrary, the Commissioner of  
10 Human Services may, effective January 1 of each year, change the  
11 copayment required pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1975, c.194  
12 (C.30:4D-22) if the commissioner determines that monies appropriated  
13 to the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled" program  
14 are insufficient to meet the costs of the program for that fiscal year.  
15 The revised copayment shall be effective for the full calendar year in  
16 which it is revised and shall be adopted pursuant to the  
17 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
18 seq.).  
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20 2. Section 1 of P.L.1979, c.27 (C.30:4D-34) is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 1. Any eligible person under the program of Pharmaceutical  
23 Assistance to the Aged and Disabled shall, upon the submission of  
24 such application and proof of expenditure as the department may  
25 prescribe, be reimbursed for the cost of all prescription drugs  
26 purchased by such person, minus [a \$2.00] the copayment per  
27 prescription, during the period commencing 30 days after such  
28 person's properly completed application was received by the  
29 department and ending on the date on which such person received his  
30 proof of eligibility from the department; provided, however, that no  
31 reimbursement under this act shall be made for any prescription drug  
32 purchased prior to the effective date of this act.

33 (cf: P.L.1979, c.383, s.1)

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1       3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Human Services to change  
7 the copayment for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and  
8 Disabled" program effective January 1 of each year if he determines  
9 that monies appropriated to the program are insufficient for that year.

10       Presently, the copayment for the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the  
11 Aged and Disabled" program is \$5.00 per prescription. The  
12 copayment was increased from \$2.00 to \$5.00 in the fiscal year 1994  
13 annual appropriations act.

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18       Authorizes Commissioner of Human Services to annually revise  
19 copayment in PAAD program if necessary.