



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 1116

LCO No. 4142

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE CONNPACE PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-491 of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 14 of public act 03-2, is repealed and the following
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

4 (a) There shall be a "Connecticut Pharmaceutical Assistance
5 Contract to the Elderly and the Disabled Program" which shall be
6 within the Department of Social Services. The program shall consist of
7 payments by the state to pharmacies for the reasonable cost of
8 prescription drugs dispensed to eligible persons minus a copayment
9 charge. The pharmacy shall collect the copayment charge from the
10 eligible person at the time of each purchase of prescription drugs, and
11 shall not waive, discount or rebate in whole or in part such amount.
12 The maximum quantity per prescription shall be a thirty-day supply or
13 one hundred twenty oral dosage units whichever is greater. The
14 copayment for each prescription shall be as follows:

15 (1) Sixteen dollars and twenty-five cents if the participant is (A) not
16 married and has an annual income of less than twenty thousand three

17 hundred dollars, or (B) is married and has an annual income that,
18 when combined with the participant's spouse, is less than twenty-
19 seven thousand five hundred dollars.

20 (2) Upon the granting of a federal waiver to expand the program in
21 accordance with section 17b-492, as amended by this act, the
22 copayment shall be twenty dollars for a participant who is (A) not
23 married and has an annual income that equals or exceeds twenty
24 thousand three hundred dollars, or (B) married and has an annual
25 income that, when combined with the participant's spouse, equals or
26 exceeds twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars.

27 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes, as
28 amended by section 15 of public act 03-2, is repealed and the following
29 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

30 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any
31 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled,
32 (2) (A) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than thirteen
33 thousand eight hundred dollars, except after April 1, 2002, such annual
34 income is less than twenty thousand dollars, or whose annual income,
35 if married, when combined with that of the resident's spouse is less
36 than sixteen thousand six hundred dollars, except after April 1, 2002,
37 such combined annual income is less than twenty-seven thousand one
38 hundred dollars, or (B) in the event the program is granted a waiver to
39 be eligible for federal financial participation, then, after July 1, 2002,
40 whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than twenty-five thousand
41 eight hundred dollars, or whose annual income, if married, when
42 combined with that of the resident's spouse is less than thirty-four
43 thousand eight hundred dollars, (3) who is not insured under a policy
44 which provides full or partial coverage for prescription drugs once a
45 deductible amount is met, and (4) on and after September 15, 1991,
46 who pays an annual thirty-dollar registration fee to the Department of
47 Social Services. [Effective January 1, 2002, the commissioner shall
48 commence accepting applications from individuals who will become

49 eligible to participate in the program as of April 1, 2002.] The
50 Commissioner of Social Services shall ensure that the terms and
51 provisions of the waiver application described in subparagraph (B) of
52 subdivision (2) of this subsection are effectuated immediately upon
53 approval of the waiver application. On and after July 1, 2003, any
54 married applicant may elect for participation in the program on an
55 individual basis, provided such applicant's annual income is less than
56 the limit for an unmarried person. On January 1, 1998, and annually
57 thereafter, the commissioner shall increase the income limits
58 established under this subsection over those of the previous fiscal year
59 to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income, if
60 any. Each such adjustment shall be determined to the nearest one
61 hundred dollars.

62 Sec. 3. Section 17b-494 of the general statutes is repealed and the
63 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

64 The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in
65 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish (1) a system
66 for determining eligibility and disqualification under the program,
67 including provisions for an identification number and a renewable,
68 nontransferable identification card; (2) requirements for the use of the
69 identification number and card by the pharmacy and the eligible
70 person; (3) a system of payments; [(4) limitations on the maximum
71 quantity per prescription which shall not exceed a thirty-day supply or
72 one hundred twenty oral dosage units whichever is greater; (5)] (4)
73 requirements as to records to be kept by the pharmacy, including
74 patient profiles; [(6)] (5) products prescribed for cosmetic and other
75 purposes which shall not be covered under the program; and [(7)] (6)
76 such other provisions as are necessary to implement the provisions of
77 sections 17b-490 to 17b-495, inclusive.

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| This act shall take effect as follows: | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2003</i> |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2003</i> |

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| Sec. 3 | July 1, 2003 |
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HS *Joint Favorable*