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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**

**No. 1212** Session of  
1981

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INTRODUCED BY ALDEN, BROWN, PERZEL, LEHR, JOHNSON, PRATT,  
HALUSKA, ARTY, REBER, TELEK, KUKOVICH AND MORRIS,  
APRIL 21, 1981

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, APRIL 21, 1981

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AN ACT

1 Providing for the cost of prescription drugs for certain senior  
2 citizens, providing penalties and making an appropriation.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Prescription  
7 Plan for the Aging Act."

8 Section 2. Administration of act.

9 This act shall be administered by the Department of Aging.  
10 The department shall, in the manner provided by law, promulgate  
11 the rules, regulations and forms necessary to carry out this  
12 act.

13 Section 3. Eligibility.

14 Any resident of the Commonwealth 65 years of age or older  
15 whose total annual income from all sources does not exceed  
16 \$12,000, or if married, does not exceed \$15,000, shall be  
17 eligible for prescription cost reimbursement under this act. The

1 department shall adjust these limits annually according to the  
2 percentage change in the Consumer Price Index published by the  
3 United States Department of Commerce.

4 Section 4. Claim procedure.

5 (a) Eligible drugs.--Any prescription medication prescribed  
6 by a licensed physician for the use of the claimant.

7 (b) Reimbursement.--The department shall reimburse eligible  
8 claimants for the cost of each prescription less a copayment  
9 amount of \$1.

10 (c) Claim procedure.--Claims shall be submitted on forms  
11 provided by the department and shall be attested to by both the  
12 physician and the pharmacist.

13 Section 5. Duplication of benefits prohibited.

14 No person eligible for prescription benefits under any other  
15 private, State or Federal program of medical insurance or  
16 assistance which duplicate the benefits available under this act  
17 shall be eligible hereunder, to the extent of such duplication.

18 Section 5. Penalties.

19 Any person who submits a false or fraudulent claim under this  
20 act, or who aids or abets another in the submission of a false  
21 or fraudulent claim, or who is eligible under a private, State  
22 or Federal program for prescription assistance and who claims or  
23 receives duplicative benefits hereunder or who otherwise  
24 violates any provision of this act, shall be guilty of a  
25 misdemeanor of the third degree.

26 Section 7. Appropriation.

27 The sum of \$1,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the  
28 Department of Aging for the 1981-1982 fiscal period to carry out  
29 this act.

30 Section 8. Effective date.

1       This act shall take effect July 1, 1981.