

# HOUSE BILL 106

C3, O1

4lr0058

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health and Mental Hygiene)**

Requested: October 10, 2013

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2014

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program – Sunset Extension**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the termination date of the Senior Prescription Drug  
4 Assistance Program; altering the period of time during which the subsidy  
5 required under the Program may not exceed a certain amount; and generally  
6 relating to the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Insurance

9 Section 14–106(e)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Chapter 153 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002, as amended by  
14 Chapter 282 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2005, Chapter 345 of  
15 the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006, Chapter 509 of the Acts of the  
16 General Assembly of 2007, Chapter 558 of the Acts of the General  
17 Assembly of 2008, Chapter 119 of the Acts of the General Assembly of  
18 2010, and Chapter 27 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2012

19 Section 13

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article – Insurance**

23 14–106.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (e) The subsidy that a nonprofit health service plan is required to provide to  
2 the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program under subsection (d)(1)(iii) of this  
3 section may not exceed:

4 (1) for the period of January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006,  
5 \$8,000,000;

6 (2) for fiscal years 2008 through [2015] **2017**, \$14,000,000; and

7 (3) for any year, the value of the nonprofit health service plan's  
8 premium tax exemption under § 6-101(b) of this article.

9 **Chapter 153 of the Acts of 2002, as amended by Chapter 282 of the Acts of**  
10 **2005, Chapter 345 of the Acts of 2006, Chapter 509 of the Acts of 2007, Chapter**  
11 **558 of the Acts of 2008, Chapter 119 of the Acts of 2010, and Chapter 27 of the**  
12 **Acts of 2012**

13 SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

14 (1) No later than June 1, 2003, the Secretary of Health and Mental  
15 Hygiene and the carrier that is required to offer the Short-Term Prescription Drug  
16 Subsidy Plan under Title 15, Subtitle 6 of the Health – General Article shall transfer  
17 all Plan records, data, and other information necessary to operate and administer the  
18 Senior Prescription Drug Program established under this Act to the Board of the  
19 Maryland Health Insurance Plan.

20 (2) Each individual enrolled in the Short-Term Prescription Drug  
21 Subsidy Plan, established under Title 15, Subtitle 6 of the Health – General Article, on  
22 June 30, 2003 shall, at the option of the enrollee and subject to the payment of all  
23 necessary premiums and copayments, be automatically enrolled in the Senior  
24 Prescription Drug Program established under this Act.

25 (3) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the transition of  
26 enrollees from the Short-Term Prescription Drug Subsidy Plan to the Senior  
27 Prescription Drug Program be accomplished without interruption of benefits for  
28 enrollees.

29 (4) Subsidies shall be offered to enrollees through the Senior  
30 Prescription Drug Assistance Program established under Title 14, Subtitle 5, Part II of  
31 the Insurance Article beginning January 1, 2006. At the end of December 31, [2014]  
32 **2016**, the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program established under Title 14,  
33 Subtitle 5, Part II, as amended, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

34 (5) Beginning April 1, 2003, the carrier required to offer the  
35 Short-Term Prescription Drug Subsidy Plan under Title 15, Subtitle 6 of the Health –  
36 General Article and the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program under Title 14,

1 Subtitle 5 of the Insurance Article shall subsidize the Plan and beginning January 1,  
2 2006, the Program, using the value of the carrier's premium tax exemption.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
4 October 1, 2014.