
By: **Senator Della**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program - Reimbursement - Diabetes Test**
3 **Strips**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program to provide
5 reimbursements for diabetes test strips; and generally relating to the
6 reimbursement for diabetes test strips by the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance
7 Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Health - General
10 Section 15-124(b)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Health - General**

16 15-124.

17 (b) (1) (i) Reimbursement under the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance
18 Program shall be limited to maintenance drugs, DIABETES TEST STRIPS,
19 anti-infectives, and AZT as specified in regulations to be issued by the Secretary after
20 consultation with the Maryland Pharmacists Association.

21 (ii) 1. For any drug on the Program's interchangeable drug list,
22 the Program shall reimburse providers in an amount not more than it would
23 reimburse for the drug's generic equivalent, unless the individual's physician states,
24 in his or her own handwriting, on the face of the prescription, that a specific brand is
25 "medically necessary" for the particular patient.

26 2. If an appropriate generic drug is not generally available,
27 the Department may waive the reimbursement requirement under
28 sub-subparagraph 1 of this subparagraph.

1 (2) The reimbursement shall be up to the amount paid for the same
2 items or services under the pharmacy program of the Maryland Medical Assistance
3 Program and shall be subject to a copayment of not more than \$5.00 for each covered
4 item or service.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2002.