

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 702
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, after “Maryland)” insert “and Delegates Barve, Benson, Boteler, Bromwell, Costa, Donoghue, Elliott, Frank, Goldwater, Kach, Kohl, Kullen, Mandel, McDonough, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Pendergrass, Rudolph, V. Turner, and Weldon”; in line 4, after the first “of” insert “prohibiting the subsidy required under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program from exceeding a certain amount in a certain fiscal year;”; in line 8, after “circumstances;” insert “requiring the Program to maintain a certain waiting list;”; in line 10, after “annually;” insert “requiring the Board to report to the General Assembly on certain information each year on or before a certain date; extending the termination date of the Senior Prescription Drug Program until a certain date; authorizing the Board to structure the benefit subsidy under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program to cover certain out-of-pocket costs during a certain year; providing that the Maryland Health Insurance Plan may not spend certain funds without the approval of the General Assembly;”; in line 15, after “Section” insert “14-106(e).”; in the same line, after “14-511” insert a comma; and after line 17, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 153 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002, as amended by Chapter 282 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2005
Section 13”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 20, insert:

“14-106.

(e) The subsidy required under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program may not exceed:

(Over)

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

(2) for fiscal year 2007, \$14,000,000; [and]

(3) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008, \$14,000,000; AND

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, after line 11, insert:

“(C) THE PROGRAM SHALL MAINTAIN A WAITING LIST OF INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM BUT WHO ARE NOT SERVED BY THE PROGRAM DUE TO FUNDING LIMITATIONS.”;

in line 12, strike “(C)” and substitute “(D)”; and after line 17, insert:

“(E) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE BOARD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON:

(1) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE WAITING LIST FOR THE PROGRAM; AND

(2) TO THE EXTENT THAT THE BOARD IS ABLE TO COLLECT THE INFORMATION:

(I) THE NUMBER OF ENROLLEES WITH OUT-OF-POCKET PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS THAT EXCEED \$2,250, BROKEN DOWN FOR EACH FISCAL QUARTER; AND

(II) THE TOTAL ANNUAL OUT-OF-POCKET PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS FOR ENROLLEES.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 3, before line 18, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 153 of the Acts of 2002, as amended by Chapter 282 of the Acts of 2005

SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

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

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

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

(4) Benefits shall be offered to enrollees through the Senior Prescription Drug Program established under Title 14, Subtitle 5, Part II of the Insurance Article beginning July 1, 2003. At the end of [June 30] DECEMBER 31, 2007, the Senior Prescription Drug Program established under Title 14, Subtitle 5, Part II, as amended, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

(5) Beginning April 1, 2003, the carrier required to offer the Short-Term Prescription Drug Subsidy Plan under Title 15, Subtitle 6 of the Health - General Article and the Senior Prescription Drug Program under Title 14, Subtitle 5 of the Insurance Article shall subsidize the Plan and beginning July 1, 2003, the Program, using the value of the carrier's premium tax exemption.

(Over)

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That notwithstanding the provisions of § 14-512 of the Insurance Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, during calendar year 2006, the Board of the Maryland Health Insurance Plan may structure the benefit subsidy under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program to cover any out-of-pocket costs an enrollee in the Program may incur for prescription drugs.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Health Insurance Plan may not spend any remaining funds from the Senior Prescription Drug Program that may accrue to the account of the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program without the approval of the General Assembly.”;

in line 18, strike “2.” and substitute “5.”; and in line 21, strike “3.” and substitute “6.”.