

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1095

As Reported by House Committee On:
Health Care & Wellness

Title: An act relating to implementing the part D drug copayment program.

Brief Description: Implementing the part D drug copayment program.

Sponsors: Representatives Barlow, Hinkle, Appleton, Green, Ormsby, Schual-Berke, Cody, Blake, B. Sullivan, Hurst, O'Brien, Clibborn, Morrell, Conway, Kenney, Linville, Rolfes, Moeller and Dunn; by request of Governor Gregoire.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Health Care & Wellness: 1/15/07 [DPS].

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- The Department of Social and Health Services may offer Medicare Part D copayment coverage to individuals who are eligible for Medicaid and Medicare, subject to available funds.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS

Majority Report: The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 13 members: Representatives Cody, Chair; Morrell, Vice Chair; Hinkle, Ranking Minority Member; Alexander, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Barlow, Campbell, Condotta, Curtis, Green, Moeller, Pedersen, Schual-Berke and Seaquist

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

Congress passed, and the President signed, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act in December 2003. It required that as of January 1, 2006 individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid must receive their prescription drug coverage through Medicare Part D and be assessed a co-pay on each prescription they fill in an amount between \$1 and \$5. Prior to this change, these individuals received their prescription drug

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coverage through the Medicaid program and did not make any co-pay. There are approximately 100,000 individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The Governor's 2007-09 biennial budget submittal assumes approximately \$14 million General Fund-State will be expended to provide co-payment coverage for the dual eligible population.

Summary of Substitute Bill:

The Department of Social and Health Services is authorized to offer Medicare Part D co-payment coverage to individuals who are eligible for medical assistance or the medically needy program and Medicare, subject to available funds.

Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:

A statutory definition of "full benefit dual eligible beneficiary" is provided.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 10, 2007.

Effective Date of Substitute Bill: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) None.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: None.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.