

# HB6178



## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB6178

by Rep. Naomi D. Jakobsson

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Seniors Pharmaceutical Assistance Relief Program Act. Provides that it is the purpose of this Act to ensure that the State's senior population has access to affordable prescription drugs. Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, beginning July 1, 2012, to establish and administer a Seniors Pharmaceutical Assistance Relief Program with the cooperation of local area agencies on aging. Contains provisions concerning eligibility standards; application standards; and rulemaking. Effective July 1, 2012.

LRB097 21730 KTG 70342 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Seniors Pharmaceutical Assistance Relief Program Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. It is the purpose of this Act to ensure  
7 that the State's senior population has access to affordable  
8 prescription drugs.

9 Section 10. Creation of program. Beginning July 1, 2012,  
10 the Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall  
11 establish and administer a pharmacy assistance program  
12 entitled the Seniors Pharmaceutical Assistance Relief Program.  
13 Local area agencies on aging shall cooperate with the  
14 Department in this endeavor.

15 Section 15. Eligibility. To become a beneficiary under the  
16 Program established under this Act, a person must:

17 (1) Be 65 years of age or older.

18 (2) Be domiciled in this State.

19 (3) Have income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty  
20 Level.

21 (4) Apply for federal Extra Help (Low-Income Subsidy) under

1 Medicare Part D.

2 (5) Have maximum household assets of \$13,070 if single, or  
3 \$26,120 if married.

4 Future asset limitations established by the Department  
5 under this Program shall be updated, if necessary, to match the  
6 asset limitations set under the federal Extra Help (Low-Income  
7 Subsidy) program.

8 Section 20. Program applications. Applications for  
9 benefits under the Program shall be submitted electronically to  
10 the local Area Agency on Aging. Applications must be filed  
11 during the time period prescribed by the Department.

12 Section 25. Rules. The Department may adopt rules regarding  
13 applications, counting of income, the type of prescription  
14 drugs covered, and any other rules necessary for the  
15 cost-efficient operation of the Program established under this  
16 Act.

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
18 2012.