

STATE OF NEW YORK

2535--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 21, 2021

Introduced by Sens. RIVERA, BAILEY, GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to program eligibility for plans comparable to Medicare part D

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraphs (f) and (h) of subdivision 3 and subdivision 4
2 of section 242 of the elder law, paragraph (f) of subdivision 3 as
3 amended by section 1 of part T of chapter 56 of the laws of 2012, para-
4 graph (h) of subdivision 3 as amended by section 3-f of part A of chap-
5 ter 59 of the laws of 2011, and subdivision 4 as added by section 12-a
6 of part T of chapter 56 of the laws of 2012, are amended to read as
7 follows:

8 (f) As a condition of eligibility for benefits under this title, a
9 program participant is required to be enrolled in Medicare part D, or
10 any other public or private drug plan which has successfully demon-
11 strated to CMS that the coverage is as generous as, or more generous
12 than the defined standard coverage under the Medicare part D
13 prescription drug benefit, and to maintain such enrollment. For unmar-
14 ried participants with individual annual income less than or equal to
15 twenty-three thousand dollars and married participants with joint annual
16 income less than or equal to twenty-nine thousand dollars, the elderly
17 pharmaceutical insurance coverage program shall pay for the portion of
18 the part D or comparable plan monthly premium that is the responsibility
19 of the participant. Such payment shall be limited to the low-income
20 benchmark premium amount established by the federal centers for medicare
21 and medicaid services and any other amount which such agency establishes
22 under its de minimus premium policy.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (h) The elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program is author-
2 ized to represent program participants under this title with respect to
3 their Medicare part D or comparable coverage.

4 4. As a condition of eligibility for benefits under this title,
5 participants must be enrolled in [~~medicare~~] Medicare part D, or any
6 other public or private drug plan which has successfully demonstrated to
7 CMS that the coverage is as generous as, or more generous than the
8 defined standard coverage under the Medicare part D prescription drug
9 benefit, and maintain such enrollment. For persons who meet the eligi-
10 bility requirements to participate in the elderly pharmaceutical insur-
11 ance coverage program, the program will pay for a drug covered by the
12 person's [~~medicare~~] Medicare part D plan or comparable plan or a drug in
13 a [~~medicare~~] Medicare part D excluded drug class, as defined in subdivi-
14 sion eight of section two hundred forty-one of this title, provided that
15 such drug is a covered drug, as defined in subdivision one of section
16 two hundred forty-one of this title, and that the participant complies
17 with the point of sale co-payment requirements set forth in sections two
18 hundred forty-seven and two hundred forty-eight of this title. No
19 payment shall be made for [~~medicare~~] Medicare part D or comparable plan
20 deductibles.

21 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of April next succeeding
22 the date on which it shall have become a law.