

## HB 986 -- Prescription Drugs for Seniors

Sponsor: Meadows

This bill establishes the Missouri Senior Prescription Drug Plan which closes the standard drug benefit coverage gap created by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.

To be eligible for the program, a person must be at least 65 years old, a participant of the Medicare Part D benefit, and have an income between 150% and 200% of the federal poverty level. Subject to appropriations, the plan will pay 75% of the coverage gap, which will not exceed \$2,138 for each eligible senior in a plan year.

The Missouri Senior Prescription Drug Plan Commission is established to contract with prescription drug plan sponsors, adjust fee payments, set and adjust co-insurance amounts, apply for federal waivers and grants, and promulgate rules. Within the commission, the Missouri Senior Prescription Drug Plan Clearinghouse is established to assist and educate citizens in accessing prescription drug programs and provide information on eligibility, enrollment, and benefits of the plan.

The Missouri Senior Prescription Drug Plan Fund is created in the state treasury to receive all moneys deposited or appropriated by the General Assembly, federal government, or other sources. This fund will be used solely by the commission and the Department of Health and Senior Services for implementation of the drug plan.