



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 0060-2002 **Version:** A **Name:** Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (S.1165-A)

Type: Resolution **Status:** Adopted

In control: Committee on Aging

On agenda: 2/27/2002

Enactment date: **Enactment #:**

Title: Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to adopt Senate bill 1165-A, and its companion, Assembly bill 3972-A, which would amend the executive law in relation to limiting the cost-sharing responsibilities of eligible participants in the elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program.

Sponsors: Ruben Diaz, Miguel Martinez, Philip Reed, Joel Rivera, Angel Rodriguez, John C. Liu, Michael C. Nelson, Kendall Stewart, Hiram Monserrate, Larry B. Seabrook, Yvette D. Clarke

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Committee Report, 2. Hearing Transcript, 3. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result |
|-----------|------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 2/27/2002 | * | City Council | Introduced by Council | |
| 2/27/2002 | * | City Council | Referred to Comm by Council | |
| 6/18/2002 | * | Committee on Aging | Amendment Proposed by Comm | |
| 6/18/2002 | A | Committee on Aging | Approved by Committee | Pass |
| 6/18/2002 | * | Committee on Aging | Amended by Committee | |
| 6/18/2002 | * | Committee on Aging | Hearing Held by Committee | |
| 6/26/2002 | A | City Council | Approved, by Council | Pass |

Res. No. 60-A

Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to adopt Senate bill 1165-A, and its companion, Assembly bill 3972-A, which would amend the executive law in relation to limiting the cost-sharing responsibilities of eligible participants in the elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program.

By Council Members Diaz, Martinez, Reed, Rivera, Rodriguez, Liu, Nelson and Stewart; also Council Members Monserrate, Seabrook and Clarke

Whereas, The cost of prescription drugs for senior citizens is a well-documented problem that looms over the political landscape in New York and throughout country; and

Whereas, Drug prices are projected to rise another fifteen percent this year, contributing to an ever-increasing financial burden that is surpassing ten percent of senior incomes; and

Whereas, Federal Medicare Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) have been removing seniors and Congress has failed to address this growing crisis; and

Whereas, In New York State, the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) Plan has picked up some of the seniors removed from the Federal Medicare HMOs; and

Whereas, As a result of a an initiative to expand EPIC to cover couples with incomes of up to \$50,000, virtually half of the senior citizens in the State will be eligible for EPIC; and

Whereas, The need for this expanded coverage was, in part, related to the estimated 130,000 New Yorkers who were "dumped" by Medicare HMOs during the past two years; and

Whereas, EPIC requires that participants pay a variety of premiums, fees, co-pays and deductibles, which currently range from four to seven percent of their income; and

Whereas, The capping of out-of-pocket expenses (COPE) ensures that no one will pay more than five percent of their income for prescription

drugs, saving seniors as much as \$170 million; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York State Legislature to adopt Senate bill 1165-A, and its companion, Assembly bill 3972-A, which would amend the executive law in relation to limiting the cost-sharing responsibilities of eligible participants in the elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program.

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