

(2) The certification is renewable after each 1-year period if the individual meets the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

13-312.

(A) The EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE Department may SHALL require Program recipients to apply for eligibility in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program [and], the Medicare Part B Program, AND THE MEDICARE PART D PROGRAM within 60 days of notification to do so by the Department.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY IN THE MEDICARE PART B PROGRAM OR THE MEDICARE PART D PROGRAM IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT HAS COMPARABLE INSURANCE COVERAGE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Approved May 2, 2006.

CHAPTER 345

(House Bill 702)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Health Insurance Plan - Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the subsidy required under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program from exceeding a certain amount in a certain fiscal year; clarifying the purpose of the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program; altering the payments to be made for certain enrollees by the Program; providing that certain additional costs may be paid for certain enrollees in the Program; repealing a certain requirement that certain enrollees make certain payments under certain circumstances; requiring the Program to maintain a certain waiting list; requiring the Board of Directors of the Maryland Health Insurance Plan to make certain determinations about the Program annually; requiring the Board to report to the General Assembly on certain information each year on or before a certain date; extending the termination date of the Senior Prescription Drug Program until a certain date; authorizing the Board to structure the benefit subsidy under the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program to cover certain out-of-pocket costs during a certain year; providing that the Maryland Health Insurance Plan may not spend certain funds without the approval of the General Assembly; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,