

directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. ~~The fund may consist of in kind contributions.~~ In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2002, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2000.

Approved May 18, 2000.

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## CHAPTER 565

### (Senate Bill 855)

AN ACT concerning

**Public Health — Senior Assistance — Insurance Subsidy for Medicare Plus Choice Short-Term Prescription Drug Subsidy Plan**

FOR the purpose of establishing a certain subsidy program under which a subsidy is to be paid to insurers for certain enrollees in Medicare plus Choice; establishing certain guidelines for enrollee eligibility; establishing the eligibility criteria for participating in the subsidy program; requiring certain benefits to be provided in order to be eligible for the subsidy; allowing a managed care organization to include certain deductibles and co-payments as part of its program; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to make payments to certain managed care providers within a certain period of time, to provide a certain report, and to adopt certain regulations; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a subsidy program for insurers for certain enrollees in Medicare plus Choice prescription drug plan for certain Medicare Plus Choice eligible individuals residing in certain medically underserved counties or portions of counties; requiring a certain carrier to provide the plan as a condition of receiving a certain hospital rate differential; requiring certain other carriers to pay a certain assessment into a certain fund as a condition of receiving that differential; creating the fund and providing for the use and administration of the fund; providing an exception to the insurance premium tax for the plan created under this Act; requiring that the carrier providing the plan meet certain conditions; requiring that the plan include a certain deductible and limitation on total benefits and certain co-pays and premiums; allowing the