

~~(H)~~ ~~(HH)~~ 3. BEGINNING JULY 1, ~~2004~~ 2005, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING 5% TO REFLECT THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH BENEFITS UNDER TITLE II OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (42 U.S.C. 401 THROUGH 433) ARE INCREASED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REFLECT CHANGES IN THE COST OF LIVING, AS THAT PERCENTAGE CHANGE IS REPORTED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH ~~42 U.S.C. 415(1)(2)(D)~~ 42 U.S.C.(A)(1)(D); OR

(II) IF ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2002, THE FEDERAL CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES DO NOT APPROVE THE DEPARTMENT'S APPLICATION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE'S EXISTING § 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 15-124.1 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE:

1. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2003, \$50 PER MONTH;

2. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2004, \$60 PER MONTH; AND

3. BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY BY AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING 5% TO REFLECT THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH BENEFITS UNDER TITLE II OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (42 U.S.C. 401 THROUGH 433) ARE INCREASED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REFLECT CHANGES IN THE COST OF LIVING, AS THAT PERCENTAGE CHANGE IS REPORTED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH 42 U.S.C. 415(A)(1)(D).

(4) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION.

[(e)] (F) Subject to the confidentiality requirements of State and federal law, the courts of this State shall admit a certified copy of a 206N form, also known as a long-term care transaction form, into evidence.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October 1, 2002~~ July 1, 2002.

Approved May 6, 2002.

CHAPTER 293

(House Bill 422)

AN ACT concerning

Nursing Home Residents - Increase in Personal Needs Allowance

FOR the purpose of specifying the amount of the personal needs allowance for a nursing home resident who is a recipient of medical assistance, subject to a certain contingency; requiring a certain calculation when computing income eligibility for a nursing home resident who is a recipient of medical assistance; providing for a certain annual increase in the personal needs allowance;