By Representatives Siplin, Cusack, Smith, Wilson, Joyner, Bendross-Mindingall, Peterman, Fields and Richardson

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to pharmaceutical expense
assistance; amending s. 409.9065, F.S.;
increasing the maximum income level for
eligibility under the pharmaceutical expense
assistance program; increasing the maximum
monthly benefit amount per participant;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 409.9065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.9065 Pharmaceutical expense assistance.--

- (2) ELIGIBILITY.--Eligibility for the program is limited to those individuals who qualify for limited assistance under the Florida Medicaid program as a result of being dually eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, but whose limited assistance or Medicare coverage does not include any pharmacy benefit. Specifically eligible are low-income senior citizens who:
- (b) Have an income between 90 and $\underline{150}$ $\underline{120}$ percent of the federal poverty level;
- (3) BENEFITS.--Medications covered under the pharmaceutical expense assistance program are those covered under the Medicaid program in s. 409.906(20). Monthly benefit payments shall be limited to\$150\$80 per program participant. Participants are required to make a 10-percent coinsurance payment for each prescription purchased through this program.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

********** HOUSE SUMMARY Increases from 120 percent to 150 percent of federal poverty level the maximum income for participation of an elderly individual in the pharmaceutical expense assistance program. Increases from \$80 to \$150 the monthly benefit limitation per participant.