

SESSION OF 2003

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON
HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 268**

As Recommended by House Committee on
Appropriations

Brief*

House Sub. for SB 268 makes changes to the existing Senior Pharmacy Assistance program to allow the agency to apply for an 1115 Demonstration Waiver that allows the Department on Aging to access an additional \$1.8 million in federal funds for the program.

The bill lowers the age of eligibility for the program from 67 to 65 while increasing the income eligibility from 150.0 percent of the poverty level to 200.0 percent. In addition, a financial hardship exception is added to the requirement that an applicant must not have cancelled their insurance within six months of their application. Limitations on maintenance drugs for specific disease states, the 30.0 percent co-pay, \$1,200 maximum payment, and cost reimbursements and dispensing fees are all removed from statute.

The Secretary of the Department on Aging is given the authority to adopt rules and regulations, as well as establish benefits, limitations, and cost sharing requirements. Finally, the bill allows for elimination of the program if a federal prescription benefit becomes available.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Appropriations, with no proponents or opponents to the bill.

The fiscal impact is an increase in available funding of \$1.8 million other funds.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/klrld>

