

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE BILL 835

Short Title: Presc. Drug Discounts/Uninsured Elderly. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blackwood; Dockham, Frye, Gibson, Glazier, Insko, Justus, Kiser, Luebke, McMahan, C. Wilson, and Womble.

Referred to: Health.

April 2, 2003

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REQUIRING CERTAIN PHARMACIES TO PROVIDE PRESCRIPTION
3 DRUG DISCOUNTS TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 4A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended
6 by adding the following new section to read:

7 "**§ 90-85.42. Prescription drug discount required for certain individuals.**

8 (a) A pharmacy, by or through a pharmacist acting on its behalf as its employee,
9 agent, or owner, that dispenses prescription drugs pursuant to reimbursement under the
10 North Carolina Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid) shall comply with the
11 requirements of this section.

12 (b) In dispensing prescription drugs to individuals who meet the requirements of
13 this section, the pharmacy shall accept as payment in full from the individual the
14 applicable rate for which the pharmacy is reimbursed from the North Carolina Medical
15 Assistance Program (Medicaid). The discount required under this section shall be
16 offered to individuals:

17 (1) Over the age of 60 and not eligible for full Medicaid benefits; and

18 (2) Not otherwise covered for prescription drugs under a health benefit
19 plan or public or private prescription drug program.

20 (c) A pharmacy subject to this section shall display prominently at the point of
21 service and at the point of sale, a sign reminding discount beneficiaries to ask that the
22 charge for the beneficiary's prescription be the same amount as the fee charged to the
23 North Carolina Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)."

24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2004.