



NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE

NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Provides Assistance to Long-Term Care Eligibility

CONCORD, NH – Senator David Rochefort (R-Littleton) released the following statement on the introduction of SB 247 and SB 131-FN-A, designating Coos County as a distressed place-based economy:

“Nursing homes and other facilities need help alleviating financial pressures. When individuals apply for Medicaid when going into a nursing home, the facility will oftentimes accept patient after the application is submitted. In the meantime, nursing homes receive almost no funds from Medicaid while waiting for the application approval while providing services and care, absorbing the full brunt of the costs. This bill seeks to solve this problem by creating provisional eligibility for applicants whose Medicaid applications have been pending for 90 days. This will help reduce strains on nursing homes and help get patients to where they need to be.

“We are also giving more opportunities to pharmacies that want to decline to fill a prescription if reimbursement from the pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) is less than the pharmacy’s acquisition cost. This helps provide more options to pharmacists and ensures that there is more flexibility in figuring out whether to fill prescriptions or not without changing implementation of Medicaid or Medicare management.”

Background: SB 131-FN-A creates provisional eligibility for applicants whose Medicaid applications have been pending for 90 days. Once the Medicaid application is granted or denied, the facility can repay the State once the facility has received payments. Personal eligibility will automatically terminate 18 months from the application date, unless there is a final determination on the Medicaid application before that.

SB 247 allows pharmacists to decline to fill prescriptions if reimbursements from the pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) is less than the pharmacy’s acquisition cost. The bill also defines a pharmacy services administrative organization for purposes of pharmacy and PBM contract negotiation and administration. Helping pharmacies and preventing them from being removed in network

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