

**Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2003**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1399
(Representatives Devlin, Delzer, Nelson, Price)
(Senators Fischer, J. Lee)

AN ACT to create a pharmaceutical manufacturers drug access program within the office of insurance commissioner for low-income individuals; and to provide an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. Prescription drug assistance. The insurance commissioner shall create and implement a program to assist individuals of low income to gain access to prescription medications through prescription drug assistance programs offered by pharmaceutical manufacturers, including free discount and coverage programs. The commissioner shall use available computer software programs that link an eligible individual with the appropriate pharmaceutical company patient assistance program relating to the individual's medically necessary drugs. The commissioner shall provide education to individuals and providers to promote the program and to expand enrollment and access to necessary medications for low-income individuals qualifying for the programs.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the insurance commissioner for the purpose of implementing the pharmaceutical manufacturers drug access program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2005.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1399.

House Vote: Yeas 92 Nays 1 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2003.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2003.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2003,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State