

1 AN ACT concerning aging.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Senior Pharmaceutical Assistance Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (320 ILCS 50/15)

7 Sec. 15. Senior Pharmaceutical Assistance Review  
8 Committee.

9 (a) The Senior Pharmaceutical Assistance Review Committee  
10 is created. The Committee shall consist of 17 members as  
11 follows:

12 (1) Twelve members appointed as follows: 2 members of  
13 the General Assembly and 1 member of the general public,  
14 appointed by the President of the Senate; 2 members of the  
15 General Assembly and 1 member of the general public,  
16 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; 2 members  
17 of the General Assembly and 1 member of the general public,  
18 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
19 and 2 members of the General Assembly and 1 member of the  
20 general public, appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
21 House of Representatives. These members shall serve at the  
22 pleasure of the appointing authority.

23 (2) The Director of Aging or his or her designee.

1 (3) The Director of Revenue or his or her designee.

2 (4) The Director of Healthcare and Family Services or  
3 his or her designee.

4 (5) The Secretary of Human Services or his or her  
5 designee.

6 (6) The Director of Public Health or his or her  
7 designee.

8 (b) Members appointed from the general public shall  
9 represent the following associations, organizations, and  
10 interests: statewide membership-based senior advocacy  
11 organizations, pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacists,  
12 dispensing pharmacies, physicians, and providers of services  
13 to senior citizens. No single organization may have more than  
14 one representative appointed as a member from the general  
15 public.

16 (c) The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of  
17 Representatives shall each designate one member of the  
18 Committee to serve as co-chairs.

19 (d) Committee members shall serve without compensation or  
20 reimbursement for expenses.

21 (e) The Committee shall meet at the call of the co-chairs,  
22 but at least quarterly.

23 (f) The Committee may conduct public hearings to gather  
24 testimony from interested parties regarding pharmaceutical  
25 assistance for Illinois seniors, including changes to existing  
26 and proposed programs.

1       (f-5) The Committee may review federal legislation with  
2 regard to e-prescribing to determine what provisions, if any,  
3 would improve health care in Illinois.

4       (f-6) The Committee may conduct public hearings to gather  
5 testimony regarding federal procedure for pandemic  
6 preparedness and response to determine whether or not the State  
7 should update its preparedness procedures and tactics.

8       (g) The Committee may advise appropriate State agencies  
9 regarding the establishment of proposed programs or changes to  
10 existing programs. The State agencies shall take into  
11 consideration any recommendations made by the Committee.

12       (h) The Committee shall report to the General Assembly and  
13 the Governor annually or as it deems necessary regarding  
14 proposed or recommended changes to pharmaceutical assistance  
15 programs that benefit Illinois seniors and any associated costs  
16 of those changes.

17       (h-5) The Committee may conduct public hearings to gather  
18 testimony from interested parties regarding prescription drug  
19 abuse to determine whether the State should increase penalties  
20 against those engaged in conduct potentially harmful to  
21 Illinois residents, particularly those under age 25. In order  
22 to do this, the Committee may review guidelines from State  
23 universities addressing prescription drug abuse.

24       (i) In the event that a prescription drug benefit is added  
25 to the federal Medicare program, the Committee shall make  
26 recommendations for the realignment of State-operated senior

1 prescription drug programs so that Illinois residents qualify  
2 for at least substantially the same level of benefits available  
3 to them prior to implementation of the Medicare prescription  
4 drug benefit, provided that a resident remains eligible for  
5 such a State-operated program. The Committee shall report its  
6 recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor by  
7 January 1, 2005.

8 (Source: P.A. 95-331, eff. 8-21-07.)

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
10 becoming law.