STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2527 By: Mitchell

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public health and safety; expanding the Oklahoma Old Age Assistance Program; increasing and providing prescription medications for certain persons; requiring the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to reduce certain amounts spent on certain other programs; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5009.3 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Old Age Assistance Program shall be expanded to provide eight prescription medications for persons who qualify for Old Age Assistance.

B. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority shall provide three prescription medications for persons who qualify for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Program.

C. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority shall provide one prescription medication for persons who qualify for the Selected Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program.

D. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority is hereby directed to reduce amounts spent on other programs it administers by the amount necessary to pay for these increased medication costs initially and to conduct a study to see if Medicaid dollars are saved with this law by allowing more prescriptions at home, thus eliminating the incentive to enter a nursing home prematurely just to have more prescriptions paid through Medicaid.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-8810 KSM