

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM**

2003 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: James M. Evans**

Patrice M. Arent

**This act amends the Health Code. The act creates a Prescription Drug Assistance Program within the Department of Health and requires reporting to the Legislature.**

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

ENACTS:

**26-47-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **26-47-101** is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 47. PRESCRIPTION DRUG ASSISTANCE**

**26-47-101. Prescription Drug Assistance Program.**

(1) No later than October 1, 2003, the department shall implement a Prescription Drug Assistance Program. The program shall assist persons seeking information about how to obtain prescription drugs at a reduced price or no cost. The program shall:

(a) collect eligibility and enrollment information about programs that make prescription drugs available to consumers at a reduced price or no cost;

(b) provide information collected under Subsection (1)(a) to consumers upon request via a toll-free phone line, the Internet, and mail;

(c) inform pharmacists and other health care providers of the Prescription Drug Assistance Program; and

(d) assist consumers in completing applications to participate in programs identified under Subsection (1)(a).

(2) Any pharmaceutical manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler operating in the state shall:

(a) notify the department of any program operated by it to provide prescription drugs to

consumers at a reduced price or no cost; and

(b) provide the department with information about eligibility, enrollment, and benefits.

(3) Pharmacies, as defined in Title 58, Chapter 17, Pharmacy Practice Act, shall notify their patients of the Prescription Drug Assistance Program. This notification shall include displaying the program's toll-free number, and may include distributing a brochure or oral communication.

(4) The department may accept grants, gifts, and donations of money or property for use by the Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

(5) The department shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee and the Joint Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee on the performance of the Prescription Drug Assistance Program prior to the 2004 and 2005 Annual General Sessions of the Legislature.