

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1073

To amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to encourage the use of generic instead of nongeneric drugs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

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## A BILL

To amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to encourage the use of generic instead of nongeneric drugs.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. PURPOSE.**

4       It is the purpose of this Act to reduce the cost of  
5       prescription medications to the United States Government  
6       and to enrollees under the health benefits program for  
7       Federal employees, while maintaining the quality of health  
8       care, by requiring that generic drugs rather than non-  
9       generic drugs be used under that program, whenever pos-  
10      sible.

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1 **SEC. 2. GENERIC DRUGS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8902 of title 5, United  
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
4 ing:

5 “(o) Each contract under this chapter shall include  
6 provisions to ensure that, to the extent possible, prescrip-  
7 tions shall be filled by providing the generic form of the  
8 drug involved, except if its nongeneric form is—

9 “(1) specifically ordered by the prescribing pro-  
10 vider; or

11 “(2) requested by the individual for whom the  
12 drug is prescribed.”.

13 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
14 this section shall apply with respect to contracts entered  
15 into or renewed for years beginning at least 6 months  
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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