

*Office of the Governor*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**DiFRANCESCO ANNOUNCES PLANS TO SIGN SENIOR GOLD TOMORROW**

*Landmark Prescription Relief Plan Passes State Senate and Sent to Governor's Desk*

Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco issued the following statement announcing his plans to sign the Senior Gold Prescription Discount Act, A-2765/S-6, into law tomorrow, Tuesday, May 15. DiFrancesco authored this legislation, which will provide one of the first state prescription drug benefit programs for middle-income senior citizens and disabled individuals:

"Senior Gold will make a difference in the lives of more than 100,000 middle-income seniors and disabled individuals. Legislation this important requires immediate action, which is why I plan to sign Senior Gold into law tomorrow.

"The Senior Gold program helps those who are truly falling between the cracks of prescription coverage. This landmark plan - one of the first in the nation - will put an end to middle-income seniors having to choose between paying for medication and putting food on the table.

"After working on Senior Gold for more than a year, I am proud to announce that our state is indeed in the forefront of pharmaceutical assistance programs. Providing prescription benefits to middle-income seniors and disabled persons is the right thing to do for all New Jerseyans," stated DiFrancesco.

The acting Governor will sign Senior Gold into law on Tuesday, May 15, at 2 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club on 460 Passaic Ave., Lodi.

The Senior Gold Prescription Discount Act is sponsored by DiFrancesco and Senator Martha Bark (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden) and Assemblymen Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and John Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland).

**\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\***

Acting Governor DiFrancesco Will Sign Senior Gold Legislation  
2p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2001  
Boys and Girls Club  
460 Passaic Ave., Lodi