

By Mr. Burke, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 593) of Edward L. Burke, Louis P. Bertonazzi and others for legislation to increase the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-three.

AN ACT INCREASING THE PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 6 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appear-
2 ing in chapter 283 of the Acts of 1976 is hereby further
3 amended by inserting after the second paragraph the follow-
4 ing new paragraph: —

5 All persons eligible for public assistance, as determined un-
6 der the provisions of one hundred and seventeen, one hundred
7 and eighteen A, and this chapter who are not maintaining
8 their own homes but are receiving care in any licensed nurs-
9 ing home, any licensed rest home, licensed chronic hospital
10 or in any approved public medical institution, shall retain
11 the first forty-five dollars of income for clothing, personal
12 needs and leisure time activities. If there is no income, or
13 the monthly income is less than forty-five dollars, the recipi-
14 ent shall be paid monthly in advance the difference between
15 the income and forty-five dollars a month.

16 The Department of Public Welfare shall by regulation pro-
17 vide that personal laundry costs shall not be charged to the
18 amount retained by or paid to the recipient pursuant to this
19 section.

20 Personal laundry costs shall instead be reimbursable
21 through the per diem rates established by the rate setting
22 commission.

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