
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOCIAL SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that social security
2 recipients who reside in institutional care settings receive a
3 monthly personal allowance. Approximately four thousand
4 individuals living in nursing-level-of-care institutional
5 settings receive approximately \$30 of monthly benefits to be
6 used for individual needs. The needs allowance is intended to
7 pay for clothing, toiletries, bus fare, personal postage costs,
8 snacks, and other incidental expenses of day-to-day living.

9 An allowance has never been formally established or
10 required for the approximately two thousand five hundred
11 individuals living in adult residential care homes, licensed
12 developmental disabilities domiciliary homes, community care
13 foster family homes, certified adult foster homes, and other
14 domiciliary care. However, the department of human services has
15 informally recommended that care home operators also provide \$30
16 per month for the residents' personal needs.

17 In 1974, the federal government established the minimum
18 needs allowance for a nursing home resident at \$25, which was



1 subsequently raised in 1988 to \$30, the current monthly
2 allowance. In 2004, only eleven states' monthly allowance
3 remained at \$30, while other states raised the minimum monthly
4 allowance. If the needs allowance was pegged to the Consumer
5 Price Index, \$25 in 1974 would be the equivalent of \$115.19 in
6 2004.

7 The legislature finds that it is imperative that the
8 minimum monthly allowance be increased to allow institutional
9 long-term care residents to enjoy an acceptable quality of life.

10 The purpose of this Act is to establish a personal
11 allowance for individuals residing in care homes, nursing homes,
12 and other long-term care facilities.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 346D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§346D- Personal allowance; waiver program. (a)

17 There is established a monthly needs allowance for individuals
18 living in qualified facilities. The needs allowance shall be
19 administered by the department of human services to pay for
20 clothing and other miscellaneous personal needs such as bus
21 fare, personal postage costs, haircuts, and other costs of day-
22 to-day living.



1 (b) The needs allowance shall be \$50 per month per
2 individual.

3 (c) The needs allowance is not intended to replace or
4 affect the funds received from the federal supplemental security
5 income program, and shall be supplemental to any funds provided
6 to a recipient by the federal supplemental security income
7 program.

8 (d) The operators of adult residential care homes type I
9 and type II, developmental disabilities domiciliary homes,
10 community care foster family homes, adult foster homes, and
11 other domiciliary care facilities, shall pay for generic
12 toiletries (including toilet paper, hand soap, and paper
13 towels), linens (including bedding, sheets, blankets, towels,
14 and bath rugs), and meals and snacks for outings.

15 (e) The needs allowance shall apply to persons otherwise
16 eligible to receive monthly income pursuant to state laws or
17 rules and federal laws or regulations, and is not intended to
18 affect the classifications of or number of persons eligible to
19 receive such funds.

20 (f) The department shall perform an annual review of the
21 monthly needs allowance to ensure it provides adequate coverage
22 and shall report annually to the legislature beginning no later



1 than twenty days prior to the regular session of 2008 with
2 suggestions for corrections or improvements to the monthly needs
3 allowance, including any proposed legislation.

4 (g) For the purposes of this section, "qualified facility"
5 means adult residential care home type I and type II facilities,
6 developmental disabilities domiciliary homes as defined under
7 section 321-15.9, community care foster family homes as defined
8 under section 346-331, adult foster homes as defined under
9 section 321-11.2, domiciliary care residences and facilities as
10 defined under section 346-1, nursing facilities as defined under
11 section 346E-1, and residential alternatives for individuals
12 served by the residential alternatives community care program."

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to provide
16 a monthly personal allowance for individuals living in adult
17 residential care home type I and type II facilities,
18 developmental disabilities domiciliary homes as defined under
19 section 321-15.9, community care foster family homes as defined
20 under section 346-331, adult foster homes as defined under
21 section 321-11.2, domiciliary care residences and facilities as
22 defined under section 346-1, nursing facilities as defined under

1 section 346E-1, and residential alternatives for individuals
2 served by the residential alternatives community care program.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 human services for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Personal allowance; Care homes

Description:

Establishes provisions for a \$50 monthly personal allowance for residents of certain care homes. Appropriates funds. (HB1475 HD2)

