



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 25

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6775

House of Representatives, February 27, 2025

The Committee on Aging reported through REP. GARIBAY of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS' PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17b-106 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (b) The commissioner shall provide a state supplement payment for
5 recipients of Medicaid and the federal Supplemental Security Income
6 Program who reside in long-term care facilities sufficient to increase
7 their personal needs allowance to seventy-five dollars per month. On
8 July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall increase
9 such state supplement payment over that of the previous fiscal year by
10 an amount sufficient to increase such personal needs allowance by an
11 amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the annual cost-of-living
12 adjustment in the federal Supplemental Security Income Program, if
13 any. Such state supplement payment shall be made to the long-term care

14 facility to be deposited into the personal fund account of each such
15 recipient. For the purposes of this subsection, "long-term care facility"
16 means a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home, a chronic
17 disease hospital, a rest home with nursing supervision, an intermediate
18 care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities or a state
19 humane institution.

20 Sec. 2. Section 17b-272 of the general statutes is repealed and the
21 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

22 The Commissioner of Social Services shall permit patients residing in
23 nursing homes, chronic disease hospitals and state humane institutions
24 who are medical assistance recipients under sections 17b-260 to 17b-262,
25 inclusive, 17b-264 to 17b-285, inclusive, and 17b-357 to 17b-361,
26 inclusive, to have a monthly personal fund allowance of seventy-five
27 dollars, adjusted annually on and after July 1, 2025, in accordance with
28 section 17b-106, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-106(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17b-272

AGE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	500,000 - 800,000	1,000,000 - 1,600,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services of \$500,00 to \$800,000 in FY 26 and \$1 million to \$1.6 million in FY 27 due to establishing annual increases in the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA). Based on historical cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) in the federal Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI), the estimate assumes an increase in the PNA of approximately \$6 to \$9 per year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to annual COLAs to SSI.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6775*****AN ACT CONCERNING COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS' PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Social Services commissioner to annually increase the personal needs allowance (PNA) for Medicaid recipients living in long-term care facilities. Specifically, starting July 1, 2025, the commissioner must annually increase the amount by 25% of the annual cost of living adjustment, if any, in the federal Supplemental Security Income Program. Under current law, the PNA is set at \$75 per month. Long-term care facilities include nursing homes, chronic disease hospitals, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, and state humane institutions.

Residents of these facilities who receive Medicaid apply their monthly income (e.g., Social Security) towards the cost of their care. But federal law allows them to keep a portion of this income (the PNA) to pay for incidental items, such as haircuts, telephone expenses, and newspapers, or for hobbies. Facilities deposit the PNA into residents' personal fund accounts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (02/18/2025)