

By: Jetta Roberts

DR-4

Committee: Criminal Justice

RESOLUTION

Increase Medicaid Personal Needs Allowance to \$75 per Month

A RESOLUTION TO: Raise the Personal Needs Allowance for nursing home residents.

WHEREAS, In the State of Texas Medicaid nursing home Residents are allowed to keep only \$60.00 a month out of their income for their personal needs – to use for clothing, shoes or slippers, items for personal hygiene, such as, deodorant, toothpaste, denture tablets, soap for sensitive skin, hair styling or hair cuts, perhaps a magazine, or a candy bar now and then as a special treat; and

WHEREAS. With the rising cost of everything today, this amount is truly inadequate. The Residents get depressed. They feel deprived, humiliated and angry. Not all of the Residents have family members with whom they can depend on to look out for their behalf and who can help defray the costs of their personal needs; and

WHEREAS, Under the nursing home waiver program, the Residents of other settings, like Adult Foster Care Homes, are allowed to keep \$85.00 a month for their personal needs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Personal Needs Allowance for Medicaid nursing home Residents be raised to \$75.00 a month to offset the rising cost of these items.

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 16, 2002, by the Criminal Justice Committee.

William Zermeno, Vice Chairman

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 17, 2002, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

Jean McCloud, Secretary