

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

H.B. 752  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40353-MGa-111

Short Title: Respect Personal Needs/Assisted Living Res. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Ball, Howard, and Carney (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT INCREASING THE PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE FOR RECIPIENTS OF  
3 STATE-COUNTY SPECIAL ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO CORRECT FOR INFLATION  
4 AND ALLOW RESIDENTS OF ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES TO RETAIN MORE  
5 OF THEIR OWN FUNDS TO PURCHASE PERSONAL ITEMS; AND APPROPRIATING  
6 FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION  
7 OF SOCIAL SERVICES, TO OFFSET THE COST OF THIS INCREASE.

8 Whereas, residents of assisted living facilities who are recipients of State-County  
9 Special Assistance are permitted to retain a small amount of money each month known as a  
10 personal needs allowance (PNA) to purchase personal items such as clothing and other personal  
11 needs and expenses described in 42 C.F.R. § 435.832(c)(1); and

12 Whereas, since 2003, these residents have paid all of their medication co-payments  
13 from their PNA while receiving no additional allowance to account for the increase in their  
14 necessary medication costs; and

15 Whereas, the PNA for residents of assisted living facilities who are State-County  
16 Special Assistance recipients has been forty-six dollars (\$46.00) per month per recipient since  
17 2003, which translates to current residents of assisted living facilities having one-third less  
18 buying power than in 2003; Now, therefore,  
19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20 **SECTION 1.(a)** Effective October 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Human  
21 Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, shall increase the personal needs allowance  
22 under the State-County Special Assistance program from forty-six dollars (\$46.00) per month  
23 per recipient to seventy dollars (\$70.00) per month per recipient.

24 **SECTION 1.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
25 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, the sum of two million two hundred  
26 fifty thousand dollars (\$2,250,000) in recurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and the sum  
27 of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, to offset  
28 the cost of increasing the amount of the personal needs allowance under the State-County Special  
29 Assistance program, as provided in subsection (a) of this section.

30 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

