



## Legislative Endorsement

**Bill No. and Title:** Bill S 412 An Act increasing the personal needs allowance for residents of long-term care facilities

**Sponsor(s) and Committee:** Sen. Jehlen, Elder Affairs

**Legislative History:** Hearing:

**Legislation Text:** SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

Any person eligible for assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his home and is receiving care in or residing in a licensed nursing facility, licensed chronic hospital, licensed rest home, or an approved public medical institution as defined in section 8 of chapter 118E, shall retain the first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure activities. If there is no such income or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance the difference between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who maintains his own home and receives state supplementary payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of chapter 118A.

SECTION 2. Chapter 118A of General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 7A the following new section:-

Section 7B. Any person eligible for financial assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his home and is in a licensed medical facility which is eligible for medical assistance payments pursuant to chapter 118E or is residing in a licensed rest home to which such person pays a fixed rate, shall retain the first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no such income or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance the difference between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who maintains his own home and receives state supplementary payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of this chapter.

SECTION 3. Section 15 of chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the fourth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

A person eligible for medical assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his own home and is receiving care in a licensed nursing facility, a licensed chronic hospital, a licensed rest home, an approved public medical institution, or a public psychiatric institution shall retain the first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no such income or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance

the difference between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who is maintaining his own home and who is receiving supplemental payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of chapter 118A.

<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S412>

<b>Endorsed by 39 members of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts including:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Boston Center for Independent Living</li> <li>● Center for Living and Work, Inc.</li> <li>● COP Amputee Association –COPAA</li> <li>● Disability Policy Consortium</li> <li>● Disability Resource Center</li> <li>● Easterseals Massachusetts</li> <li>● John Ford, Esq.</li> <li>● Lachan Forrow, MD</li> <li>● Judi Fonsh, LCSW, MSW</li> <li>● Wynn Gerhard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pamela Goodwin</li> <li>● Greater Boston Chapter of United Spinal Association</li> <li>● Fred Gross</li> <li>● Jerry Halberstadt, Stop Bullying Coalition</li> <li>● Sandy Hovey</li> <li>● Anne Johansen</li> <li>● James Lomastro, PhD</li> <li>● Paul J. Lanzikos</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Massachusetts Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, Arlene Germain, Policy Director</li> <li>● Massachusetts Aging and Mental Health Coalition</li> <li>● Massachusetts Law Reform Institute</li> <li>● MetroWest Center for Independent Living, Paul Spooner, Executive Director</li> <li>● Richard T. Moore</li> <li>● Sandy Alissa Novack, MSW, MBA</li> <li>● SeniorCare, Scott Trenti, CEO</li> </ul>

**Contact: Richard Moore, Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Legislative Chair,**  
[rmoores8743@charter.net](mailto:rmoores8743@charter.net)