

7. Option:Reduce Medicaid Personal Needs Allowance

DPHHS Program: Human and Community Services Division, Health Resources Division, Senior a term Care Division, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division

Additional research will be required to fully define and estimate costs and savings for this option

General Fund: Not yet determined

State Special Revenue: Not yet determined

Federal Special Revenue: Not yet determined

For further information see [Reference Book](#) page 3

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| 1. "Personal Needs" is a tough category and has a lot of judgment calls in the total from the bottom up, I believe. | Sat, Sep 4, 2010 11:49 AM |
| 2. Medicaid does not cover the personal needs of people at any kind of livable level. | Fri, Sep 3, 2010 3:54 PM |
| 3. Once again I oppose anything which would jeopardize overall Medicaid funding. | Fri, Sep 3, 2010 3:03 PM |
| 4. This rate is already very low. | Fri, Sep 3, 2010 11:43 AM |
| 5. MHCA was actively involved - on behalf of our Medicaid residents - in having the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents increased from \$40 per month to \$50 per month. The allowance had not been increased in over twenty years and we were finding that Medicaid nursing home residents had insufficient personal funds to pay for even the most minimal of their personal needs. This allowance is used to pay for all of their clothing, haircuts and other hair care needs, and similar personal items/services that are not included in the Medicaid rate. It is also used to purchase small gifts or birthday and Christmas cards for family members - often grand children or great grandchildren - something that is very important to them. I should note that nursing home residents on Medicaid pay a significant amount toward the cost of their care - they provide ALL of their income except for this \$50 per month stipend. On average nursing home residents pay \$900 per month toward the cost of their care - far more than other categories of Medicaid recipients. These individuals should not be deprived of this small amount of money that provides them a measure of dignity and independence. | Fri, Sep 3, 2010 11:26 AM |
| 6. I thought the governer was not going to cut social programs ? | Fri, Sep 3, 2010 11:02 AM |
| 7. This option would result in people on Medicaid who have no other income seeing the amount they can spend on things like gifts and personal items reduced below \$50 per month. This is just cruelty to take away the last means of people who have little but subsistence for anything but survival. A clearer case could hardly exist for reducing the disposable income of people earning over \$250,000 per year to ensure continued funding. | Thu, Sep 2, 2010 4:58 PM |

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| 8. Less than \$50 a month? That's tough. | Thu, Sep 2, 2010 4:07 PM |
| 9. This is a pretty offensive suggestion. It is a blow the personal dignity and remaining personal autonomy of nursing home residents and others who use this money to buy clothes, personal items, gifts for family members and other small necessities. | Wed, Sep 1, 2010 9:14 PM |
| 10. no-no-no | Tue, Aug 31, 2010 7:48 AM |
| 11. I do not support reducing funds for this. | Thu, Aug 26, 2010 10:50 AM |
| 12. See how these folks live. These are the individuals that case managers work hardest at helping meet their needs that go into personal (bras/underwear, etc) and social (outings, events). | Thu, Aug 26, 2010 10:50 AM |
| 13. No - don't balance the budget on the backs of the poor and disabled, this has already occurred in 2003 and it's discriminatory to this very vulnerable population,. | Wed, Aug 25, 2010 1:23 PM |
| 14. Agree | Sun, Aug 22, 2010 5:06 PM |
| 15. \$50/month already seems pretty minimal for personal needs. | |

25 responses per p

answered question

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