

# STATEMENTS OF POLICY

## Title 55—PUBLIC WELFARE

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

[ 55 PA. CODE CH. 2600 ]

#### Personal Care Homes

##### *Subject:*

Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for Residents of Personal Care Homes.

##### *Scope:*

This statement of policy applies to personal care homes governed by Chapter 2600 (relating to personal care homes).

##### *Purpose:*

The purpose of this statement of policy is to announce an increase in the PNA for personal care home residents who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), as referenced in §§ 2600.25(c)(1) and 2600.27(a) (relating to resident-home contract; and SSI recipients).

##### *Background:*

The PNA is the minimum amount of the resident's own funds that the resident must be permitted to retain for personal expenditures after charges for rent and other services have been paid. The Public Welfare Code (62 P. S. §§ 101—5001.1304) authorizes the Department of Public Welfare (Department) to determine the amount of the PNA. See 62 P. S. § 1057.3(a)(6). The last increase in the PNA was implemented in 1993 to increase the amount from \$30 to \$60.

While personal care homes must provide for each resident's housing, food and personal care needs, residents remain personally responsible for the cost of clothing, transportation, Medicaid and Medicare premiums, medication copayments, and personal purchases, such as snacks and entertainment.

##### *Discussion:*

In January 2009, the Federal SSI benefit will increase by \$37 per month. The Department is increasing the PNA

by \$25 per month, from \$60 to \$85, effective January 1, 2009. The remaining \$12 per month from the Federal increase will be available to personal care homes that choose to raise their rent charges.

This increase will have no fiscal impact on the State budget.

##### *Effective Date:*

This statement of policy is effective January 1, 2009.

##### *Contact Person:*

Comments and questions related to this statement of policy may be directed to Matthew J. Jones, Director of Operations, Adult Residential Licensing, Department of Public Welfare, Room 423, Health and Welfare Building, 7th and Forster Streets, Harrisburg, PA 17120, (717) 772-4982, matjones@state.pa.us.

ESTELLE B. RICHMAN,  
*Secretary*

*(Editor's Note:* The regulations of the Department of Public Welfare are amended by adding a statement of policy in § 2600.25a to read as set forth in Annex A.)

**Fiscal Note:** 14-BUL-079. No fiscal impact; (8) recommends adoption.

#### **Annex A**

#### **TITLE 55. PUBLIC WELFARE**

#### **PART IV. ADULT SERVICES MANUAL**

#### **Subpart E. RESIDENTIAL AGENCIES/FACILITIES/SERVICES**

#### **CHAPTER 2600. PERSONAL CARE HOMES**

#### **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **§ 2600.25a. Personal needs allowance for residents of personal care homes—statement of policy.**

The personal needs allowance for residents of personal care homes who receive Supplemental Security Income is \$85.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 09-10. Filed for public inspection January 2, 2009, 9:00 a.m.]