

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3417**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Christine E. Canavan**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to increasing the personal needs allowance.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
Mr. Joyce	
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Theodore C. Speliotis	13th Essex
Michael Brady	9th Plymouth
Linda Dorcena Forry	12th Suffolk
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Gale D. Candaras	First Hampden and Hampshire
David L. Flynn	8th Plymouth
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	34th Middlesex
Anne M. Gobi	5th Worcester
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester
Allen J. McCarthy	7th Plymouth
Thomas P. Kennedy	Second Plymouth and Bristol
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the  
3 following paragraph:—  
4 Any person eligible for assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his home and is receiving  
5 care in or residing in a licensed nursing facility, licensed chronic hospital, licensed rest home, or an  
6 approved public medical institution as defined in section 8 of chapter 118E, shall retain the first \$100.00  
7 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no such income  
8 or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance the difference  
9 between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the  
10 same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who maintains his own  
11 home and receives state supplementary payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of chapter 118A.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 118A of General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby  
13 amended by inserting after section 7A the following new section:—  
14 Section 7b. Any person eligible for financial assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his  
15 home and is in a licensed medical facility which is eligible for medical assistance payments pursuant to  
16 chapter 118E or is residing in a licensed rest home to which such person pays a fixed rate, shall retain the  
17 first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing, personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no  
18 such income or if it is less than the amount of \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance  
19 the difference between such income and said amount. Said amount shall be, increased annually each fiscal

20 year at the same time and at the same percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who maintains  
21 his own home and receives state supplementary payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2.

22 SECTION 3. Section 15 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition is  
23 hereby amended by striking the fourth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following  
24 paragraph:—

25 A person eligible for medical assistance under this chapter who is not maintaining his own home and is  
26 receiving care in a licensed nursing facility, a licensed chronic hospital, a licensed rest home, or in an  
27 approved public medical institution, shall retain the first \$100.00 of his monthly income for clothing,  
28 personal needs, and leisure time activities. If there is no such income or if it is less than the amount of  
29 \$100.00, such a person shall be paid monthly in advance the difference between such income and said  
30 amount. Said amount shall be increased annually each fiscal year at the same time and at the same  
31 percentage rate as increases payable to an individual who is maintaining his own home and who is  
32 receiving supplemental payments pursuant to sections 1 and 2 of chapter 118A.