HB 227, Engrossed 1 2006

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the personal needs allowance; amending s. 409.904, F.S.; increasing the monthly personal allowance for certain eligible persons; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 409.904, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.904 Optional payments for eligible persons.--The agency may make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who are determined to be eligible subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(3) A person who is in need of the services of a licensed nursing facility, a licensed intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled, or a state mental hospital, whose income does not exceed 300 percent of the SSI income standard, and who meets the assets standards established under federal and state law. In determining the person's responsibility for the cost of care, the following amounts must be deducted from the person's income:

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(a) The monthly personal allowance for residents  $\underline{\text{which}}$  shall be \$45 per month as set based on appropriations.

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Section 2. The sums of \$2,205,524 from the General Revenue Fund and \$3,146,716 from the Medical Care Trust Fund are appropriated to the Agency for Health Care Administration for the 2006-2007 fiscal year for an increase in Medicaid expenditures, and the sum of \$660,000 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Children and Family Services for the 2006-2007 fiscal year for an increase to the personal care allowance.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.