

By: Moody

H.B. No. 1739

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the personal needs allowance for certain Medicaid recipients who are residents of long-term care facilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 32.024(w), Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

(w) The department shall set a personal needs allowance of not less than \$75 [~~\$60~~] a month for a resident of a convalescent or nursing home or related institution licensed under Chapter 242, Health and Safety Code, personal care facility, ICF-MR facility, or other similar long-term care facility who receives medical assistance. The department may send the personal needs allowance directly to a resident who receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (42 U.S.C. Section 1381 et seq.). This subsection does not apply to a resident who is participating in a medical assistance waiver program administered by the department.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section 32.024(w), Human Resources Code, applies only to a personal needs allowance paid on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the

1 waiver or authorization is granted.

2 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.