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**HOUSE BILL 1128**

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**State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Bateman, Reed, Taylor, Doglio, Macri, Caldier, Simmons, Thai, Bergquist, Wylie, Kloba, Ormsby, and Tharinger; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

AN ACT Relating to raising the residential personal needs allowance; and amending RCW 74.09.340.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 74.09.340 and 2022 c 164 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Except as provided in RCW 72.36.160, beginning ((~~January 1, 2019~~)) July 1, 2023, the personal needs allowance for clients being served in medical institutions and in residential settings is ((~~$70~~)) $100.

(2) Beginning January 1, ((~~2020~~)) 2024, and each year thereafter, ((~~subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose,~~)) the personal needs allowance for clients being served in medical institutions and in residential settings shall:

(a) Be adjusted for economic trends and conditions by increasing the allowance by the percentage cost-of-living adjustment for old-age, survivors, and disability social security benefits as published by the federal social security administration; and

(b) Not exceed the maximum personal needs allowance permissible under the federal social security act.

(3) Unless subject to a separate determination of a monthly maintenance needs allowance for a community spouse by authority rule, beginning July 1, 2022, the personal needs allowance for a client receiving home and community-based waiver services authorized by home and community services while living at home shall:

(a) Be adjusted to an amount that is no less than 300 percent of the federal benefit rate; and

(b) Not exceed the maximum personal needs allowance permissible under the federal social security act.

**--- END ---**