

SCS SB 418 -- SUPPLEMENTAL NURSING CARE PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Champion (Weter)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Senior Citizen Advocacy by a vote of 9 to 0.

Currently, the Supplemental Nursing Care Program provides a \$25 per month payment for the personal care needs of a person who is 65 years of age or older, who is disabled or blind, has limited financial resources, and is in a residential care or skilled nursing facility. This substitute increases that payment to always equal the current personal needs allowance provided by the Missouri Medicaid Program. The current Medicaid allowance is \$30 per month.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$293,732 in FY 2008, \$352,620 in FY 2009, and \$352,620 in FY 2010. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill provides much needed assistance for the elderly in residential care facilities by matching the Medicaid supplemental assistance payment and is a priority for our elderly citizens.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Champion; Representative Weter; Missouri Assisted Living Association; and Missouri Association of Homes for the Aging.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.