

Kansas Legislators,

My name is Catherine Snyder. I am a 66-year-old woman from Pittsburg, KS. I have a worker that comes in my home to help with housekeeping and laundry because I am on the HCBS Physical Disability waiver allowing me 6.75 hours each week. My monthly income is \$1,292.00 and I pay a monthly client obligation of \$115.00. I am asking that you help to increase the protected income level so myself and others like me do not have to pay a client obligation every month.

My disabilities are brain injury, spinal cord injury, fibromyalgia, degenerative disc disease, bone disease, arthritis, depressive disorder. I live in income based housing m groceries for the month. I receive food stamps to help with groceries but only get \$16.00 a month in assistance. I am grateful for any help but it does not go far.

I have a small dog for a companion to keep my spirits up and to keep the anxiety of isolation away, especially during this pandemic. Animals come with a lot of responsibilities which are not cheap. This dog is my roommate and my best friend.

If I didn't have a client obligation to pay that would give me a little more room to make sure that I can keep my bills paid, food in my house, be able to take medications, and be able to take care of my companion, best friend, without having to choose between the two of us. Not having to pay a client obligation every month would be one more step to giving me a little more independence. I would really appreciate your help and support in making the change to increase the protected income level so I can keep my money to use for other important things to help me be healthy physically and emotionally.

Thank you for your consideration!

Catherine Snyder
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