

city or town are for the purpose of assessment for the payment of the cost of local improvements declared to be real property, and all such leasehold rights and interests may be assessed and re-assessed in accordance with the special benefits received, the amount of such assessment to be limited to the benefits accruing during the term of the lease, for the purpose of paying the cost of any such improvement heretofore made or which may hereafter be made upon any street or other public place immediately abutting upon and within a distance of one-half of a block back from, but not exceeding three hundred and fifty (350) feet of, such improvement.

Passed the Senate February 15, 1915.

Passed the House March 9, 1915.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1915.

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## CHAPTER 135.

[S. B. 400.]

### MOTHER'S PENSIONS.

Repeals  
Rem.-Bal.  
§§ 8385-1—  
8385-6.

AN ACT relating to the support of mothers, who by reason of destitution, insufficient property or income, or lack of earning capacity, are unable to support their children under the age of fifteen years, and repealing sections 8385-1, 8385-2, 8385-3, 8385-4, 8385-5 and 8385-6 of Remington & Ballinger's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Washington.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

Counties to  
help destitute  
mothers.

SECTION 1. In every county it shall be the duty of the county commissioners to provide out of the moneys of the county treasury an amount sufficient to meet the purposes of this law, for the support of mothers who, by reason of destitution, insufficient property or income, or lack of earning capacity, are unable to support their children under the age of fifteen years, and who come within the following classes, to-wit:

*First.* A mother whose husband is dead or confined in a penal institution or insane hospital.

*Second.* A mother whose husband, through total disability, is unable to support his family.

SEC. 2. The allowance to such mother shall not exceed fifteen (\$15) dollars per month when she has but one child under the age of 15 years, and if she has more than one child under the age of 15 years, it shall not exceed the sum of fifteen dollars per month for the first child, and five dollars per month for each of the other children under the age of 15 years.

Allowance per child.

SEC. 3. Such allowance shall be made by the juvenile court in the counties where such court is held and elsewhere by the superior court, and only upon the following conditions: (1) The child or children for whose benefit the allowance is made must be living with the mother of such child or children; (2) When by means of such allowance the mother will be able to maintain a home for her child or children; (3) The mother must in the judgment of the court, be a proper person, morally, physically and mentally, for the bringing up of her children; (4) No person shall receive the benefit of this act who shall not have been a resident of the state for three (3) years and of the county in which such application is made for at least one year next before the making of such application for such allowance.

Courts to make allowances.

Length of residence necessary.

SEC. 4. Whenever any child shall reach the age of 15 years any allowance made to the mother of such child for the benefit of such child shall cease. The court may in its discretion at any time before such child reaches the age of 15 years, discontinue or modify the allowance to any mother and for any child.

When benefits cease.

SEC. 5. Any person procuring fraudulently any allowance for a person, not entitled thereto, shall be deemed guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Penalty for fraud.

SEC. 6. In each case where an allowance is made to any woman under the provisions of this act, an order to that effect shall be entered upon the records of the court, making such allowance. Proceedings to obtain the benefit

Prosecuting attorney to have charge of proceedings.

of this act shall be instituted and maintained in the same manner as proceedings are instituted and maintained in the juvenile court, and the prosecuting attorney shall render all necessary assistance to applicants under this act and shall appear in every such proceeding and through the probation officer, the charity commissioner or any person having knowledge of the facts, shall carefully investigate the merits of every application to the end that this act may be fairly administered and no person granted relief hereunder except those justly entitled thereto, and no officer of the court or county officer shall receive any fees for any service rendered in carrying out the provisions of this act. A certified copy of said order shall be filed with the county auditor of the county in which such child's mother is resident, and thereupon and thereafter and so long as such order remains in force and unmodified it shall be the duty of the county auditor each month to draw his warrant on the current expense fund of the county in favor of the mother for the amount specified in such order, which warrant shall be by the auditor delivered to the mother upon her executing duplicate receipts therefor, one to be retained by the auditor and the other to be filed by the clerk with the other records in the proceedings relating to such child or children. It shall be the duty of the county treasurer to pay such warrant out of funds in the current expense fund of the county.

Issuance and  
payment of  
warrants.

SEC. 7. That sections 8385-1, 8385-2, 8385-3, 8385-4, 8385-5 and 8385-6 of Remington & Ballinger's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Washington be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Repealing  
clause.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1915.

Passed the House March 10, 1915.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1915.