

(12) Section 1, page 331, Laws of 1890 and RCW 2.32.340; and

(13) Section 2, page 331, Laws of 1890 and RCW 2.32.350.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 184. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate February 12, 1971.

Passed the House March 8, 1971.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1971.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1971.

CHAPTER 82

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 157]

STATE HOSPITALS--
PATIENTS' PROPERTY

AN ACT Relating to the mentally ill; amending section 72.23.230, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 as amended by section 1, chapter 60, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.23.230; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 72.23.230, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 as amended by section 1, chapter 60, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.23.230 are each amended to read as follows:

The superintendent of a state hospital shall be the custodian without compensation of such personal property of a patient involuntarily hospitalized therein as may come into the superintendent's possession while the patient is under the jurisdiction of the hospital. As such custodian, the superintendent shall have authority to disburse moneys from the patients' funds for the following purposes only and subject to the following limitations:

(1) The superintendent may disburse any of the funds in his possession belonging to a patient for such personal needs of that patient as may be deemed necessary by the superintendent; and

(2) Whenever the funds belonging to any one patient exceed the sum of three hundred dollars, the superintendent may apply the excess to the payment of the state hospitalization and/or outpatient charges of such patient except, reduction of such funds to a lesser amount may be made where necessary to qualify such patient for eligibility in any public or private program for the care, treatment, hospitalization, support, training, or rehabilitation of such patient, and to qualify such patient for the payment from any public or private program providing benefits for the payment of all or a portion of the costs of care, treatment, hospitalization, support,

training, or rehabilitation or for the discharge of the liabilities imposed by the by the provisions of RCW 71.02.411; and

(3) When a patient is paroled, the superintendent shall deliver unto the said patient all or such portion of the funds or other property belonging to the patient as the superintendent may deem necessary and proper in the interests of the patient's welfare, and the superintendent may during the parole period deliver to the patient such additional property or funds belonging to the patient as the superintendent may from time to time determine necessary and proper. When a patient is discharged from the jurisdiction of the hospital, the superintendent shall deliver to such patient all funds or other property belonging to the patient.

All funds held by the superintendent as custodian may be deposited in a single fund. Annual reports of receipts and expenditures shall be forwarded to the department, and shall be open to inspection by interested parties: PROVIDED, That all interest accruing from, or as a result of the deposit of such moneys in a single fund shall be used by the superintendent for the general welfare of all the patients of such institution: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That when the personal accounts of patients exceed three hundred dollars, the interest accruing (~~therefrom~~) from such excess shall be credited to the personal accounts of such patients. All such expenditures shall be accounted for by the superintendent.

The appointment of a guardian for the estate of such patient shall terminate the superintendent's authority to pay state hospitalization charges upon the superintendent's receipt of a certified copy of letters of guardianship. Upon the guardian's request, the superintendent shall forward to such guardian any funds or other property of the patient remaining in the superintendent's possession, together with a final accounting of receipts and expenditures.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This 1971 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 1, 1971.

Passed the House March 8, 1971.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1971.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1971.