

CHAPTER 379.

[H. B. 441.]

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE—ADVISORY COMMITTEE—
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR BLIND.

AN ACT relating to public assistance; creating an advisory committee for the blind; providing aid to the blind; amending section 10, chapter 174, Laws of 1953 and RCW 74.04.035, and section 8, chapter 166, Laws of 1949 and RCW 74.16.250; adding a new section to chapter 74.16 RCW.

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

Amendment.

SECTION 1. Section 10, chapter 174, Laws of 1953 and RCW 74.04.035 are each amended to read as follows:

State advisory committee powers and duties.

The state advisory committee shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To serve in an advisory capacity to the director on all matters pertaining to chapters 74.04 through 74.14, except that in the case of the blind the state advisory committee shall have no powers or duties.

(2) To acquaint themselves fully with the operations of the department and periodically recommend such changes to the governor as they deem advisable.

(3) To prepare and publish a mimeographed report of their recommendations. The committee shall prescribe rules for the transaction of its business. The committee shall select a chairman and a secretary. Meetings shall be held quarterly, and special meetings may be called by the director upon seven days' notice to the committee. Each member of the committee shall receive fifteen dollars per diem for each day actually spent in the performance of his duties and his actual necessary traveling and other expenses in going to, attending and returning from meetings of his committee, and his actual and necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the

discharge of such duties as may be requested of him by the director and a majority vote of the committee: *Provided*, That no member shall receive in excess of seven hundred dollars in any one year.

No person shall be eligible to hold the office of member of the state advisory committee who holds any public office, whether appointive or elective, with the exception of nonsalaried positions, nor who is an official of any political party, nor who is a candidate for any public office.

SEC. 2. There is added to chapter 74.16 RCW, a new section to read as follows:

There is hereby created an advisory committee for the blind to be composed of three members. The committee shall act as an advisory committee to the department of public assistance on all matters pertaining to the blind. The director shall appoint the three members of the committee for terms of two, four and six years respectively. Thereafter each member of the committee shall be appointed for a term of six years; except in the case of a vacancy in which event the appointment shall be only for the remainder of the unexpired term in which the vacancy occurs. Each of the three members of the committee shall receive his actual necessary traveling and other expenses in going to, attending and returning from the meetings of his committee. Appointment to the committee shall be made on the basis of a recognized interest in and a demonstrated knowledge of the problems of the blind. All members of the committee shall be blind. The committee shall make recommendations as to procedures and policies affecting any problem of the blind before the department. The committee shall advise such services, activities, programs, investigations and researches as in its judgment shall contribute to the welfare of blind persons. The department shall seek the advice of and consult with the committee on

New section.

Advisory committee for blind created; membership; appointments; terms; duties.

Per diem.

Appointment basis.

problems and policy changes affecting the blind within the department's jurisdiction; and the committee may initiate consultations with the department.

Amendment.

SEC. 3. Section 8, chapter 166, Laws of 1949 and RCW 74.16.250 are each amended to read as follows:

Determination
of aid to
recipient.

A recipient shall be entitled to that amount of aid which, when added to his net annual income in excess of twelve hundred dollars, shall equal not more than eighty dollars per month: *Provided*, That for every dollar a recipient earns in excess of twelve hundred dollars, fifty cents shall be deducted from the eighty dollar monthly grant.

Income
considered in
computing.

Net income from any one or more of the following sources shall be considered in computing the total value of twelve hundred dollars per annum:

- (1) Income from applicant's or recipient's labor or services;
- (2) The value of foodstuffs produced by him or his family for the use of himself or that of his family;
- (3) The value of firewood and/or water produced on his own premises or given to him by another for his use;
- (4) The value of gifts;
- (5) The value of the use and occupancy of premises owned and occupied by him;
- (6) The net income from real and personal property owned by him;
- (7) Cash income from any other source.

Passed the House March 8, 1955.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1955.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1955.