

CHAPTER 36.

[House Bill No. 274.]

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE—MEDICAL CARE.

AN ACT relating to public assistance; amending section 74.09-.090, chapter 26, Laws of 1959 and RCW 74.09.090; amending section 4, chapter 211, Laws of 1963 and RCW 74.09-.430; and declaring an emergency.

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

RCW 74.09.090 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 74.09.090, chapter 26, Laws of 1959 and RCW 74.09.090 are each amended to read as follows:

Public assistance—
Medical care.
Use of county institutions, budgets—
Charges to noncovered patients—
Duties of division.

(1) The division of medical care may utilize county hospitals and county infirmaries as determined necessary. County institutions so used shall submit a county hospitalization budget and/or infirmary budget to the director not less than forty days prior to the time county budgets are finally approved and adopted by the county commissioners. He shall consider the proposed budget or budgets and return it or them to the commissioners with his recommendations within thirty days of its receipt by him. The commissioners shall be empowered to adopt as the final budget the proposed budget or budgets as submitted by the board or boards of trustees, recommended budget or budgets of the director or such budget or budgets as the county commissioners themselves determine to adopt: *Provided*, That if the total of the budget or budgets as finally adopted shall be in excess of the total of the budget or budgets as recommended by the director, the said director may withhold from the county the amount of the excess over and above the total set forth in his recommended budget or budgets.

Any county infirmary so used shall comply with all rules and regulations of the Washington state

department of health applicable to nursing homes adopted by the said department under authority of chapter 18.51.

County hospitals and county infirmaries financed by state funds shall be empowered to accept and care for eligible patients from any county in the state.

(2) Persons other than recipients or medical indigents who require hospital care for communicable disease, whether under quarantine or not, and persons sufficiently mentally disturbed or ill to be placed in a county hospital for observation, diagnosis and/or treatment shall be required to pay for such hospital and medical care at the same rate as charged by nongovernmental hospitals and/or private physicians in the county where the hospital is located.

(3) Persons other than recipients or medical indigents who receive emergency medical or hospital care at a county hospital shall pay for such medical and/or hospital services or care at the same rate as charged by nongovernmental hospitals and private physicians in the county where the hospital is located.

(4) Considering the appropriations available and the recommendations of the medical care advisory committee the division of medical care shall provide for necessary physicians' services, hospital care, dental service, nursing home care, ambulance services, drugs, medical supplies, nursing services in the home, and other appliances.

(5) The division of medical care shall provide (a) for evaluation of employability when a person is applying for public assistance representing a medical condition as the basis for need, and (b) for medical reports to be used in the evaluation of total and permanent disability. It shall further provide for medical consultation and assistance in determining the need for special diets, housekeeper and at-

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tendants' services, and other requirements as found necessary because of the medical condition under rules promulgated by the director after considering the recommendation thereon of the medical care advisory committee.

RCW 74.09.430 amended.

SEC. 2. Section 4, chapter 211, Laws of 1963 and RCW 74.09.430 are each amended to read as follows:

Medical assistance to the aged—
Nursing home services.

Nursing home services shall be provided for persons who are eligible for or receiving federal aid assistance, and who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance to the aged, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 74.09.400 through 74.09.440 exclusively: *Provided*, That the director may provide nursing home services for recipients of federal aid assistance other than medical assistance to the aged for a period of not to exceed sixty days.

Emergency.

SEC. 3. 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 House March 22, 1965.

Passed the Senate March 24, 1965.

Approved by the Governor April 2, 1965.