

CHAPTER 172.

[S. B. 246.]

SUPPORT AND RELIEF OF NEEDY PERSONS.

AN Act relating to the care, support and relief of needy persons and the levy of taxes therefor, relieving counties of the obligation to pay the overplus of such taxes to the state, providing for reimbursement of counties which have paid the same in whole or in part, amending sections 7, 10 and 11, chapter 216, Laws of 1939 as amended (secs. 10007-107a, 10007-110a and 10007-111a, Rem. Rev. Stat., secs. 6233-237, 6233-240 and 6233-241, Pierce's Code) and further amending chapter 216, Laws of 1939 by adding thereto two (2) new sections to be designated section 17-a and section 10-a.

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

Amendments. SECTION 1. That section 7, chapter 216, Laws of 1939 (sec. 10007-107a, Rem. Rev. Stat., sec. 6233-237, Pierce's Code) be amended to read as follows:

County plan. Section 7. To the end that the department's supervision over county administration of public assistance funds may be made effective, it shall be the duty of the Board of County Commissioners of each county in the state to submit to the department, and through the department to the committee, not later than April 1, 1939, a county plan which shall include:

Agreement. 1. An agreement to submit an annual estimate at such time as may be fixed by the committee showing the county's requirements and resources for the ensuing year with respect to all public assistance and plans for the expenditure thereof.

2. An agreement to submit quarterly budgets at least thirty days in advance of each quarterly period showing the requirements and resources of the county with respect to public assistance, together with supporting records and data, based upon past expenditures for such purposes and anticipated demands for further funds.

3. An agreement to comply with the terms of this act respecting the issuance of warrants through the office of the State Auditor.

4. An agreement to keep such records, make such reports and use such blanks and forms as may be prescribed by the committee. Said records, reports, blanks and forms shall not exceed in scope and extent the minimum requirements of the Federal government in respect thereof.

5. An agreement to provide a full and fair hearing to each applicant as provided in this act.

6. An agreement to make available for assistance purposes a sum equal to a two (2) mill tax levy upon the assessed valuation of its taxable property, together with such miscellaneous revenues as may accrue to the county through the operation of public assistance programs, and to apply such moneys in accordance with uniform standards prescribed by the department and submit quarterly reports of all expenditures for such assistance purposes within the county.

7. A statement of plans for the conduct of investigations of need and the determination of eligibility for the granting of public assistance.

Sec. 2. That section 10, chapter 216, Laws of 1939, as amended by section 3, chapter 128, Laws of 1941 (sec. 10007-110a, Rem. Rev. Stat., sec. 6233-240, Pierce's Code) be amended to read as follows: Amendments

Section 10. Each county in the state shall levy annually a tax upon the assessed valuation of its taxable property at a rate of not less than two (2) mills for public assistance purposes. A sum equal to the amount so assessed, together with revenues accruing to the county from the administration of the public assistance program shall be deposited in the county current expense fund in an assistance account and shall be disbursed by warrant of the County Auditor upon a prescribed form authenticated by the County Administrator and approved by Two-mill
county tax
levy.

Disburse-
ment.

the Board of County Commissioners. Disbursements of moneys in such account shall be made primarily for general assistance purposes and shall conform to the uniform standards established as specified in this act. General assistance within the meaning of this section shall include hospital, institutional and medical care, excluding tuberculosis hospitalization.

Overplus.

In the event that any county in the state does not for general assistance purposes require the sum assessed as provided in this section, taken in conjunction with revenues accruing to the county from the administration of public assistance programs, it shall be authorized, by resolution of its Board of County Commissioners, to release the amount of the overplus, or such portion thereof as may be deemed expedient by said Board of County Commissioners, from the assistance account to the current expense fund for general county purposes.

Amendments.

SEC. 3. That section 11, chapter 216, Laws of 1939 (sec. 10007-111a, Rem. Rev. Stat., sec. 6233-241, Pierce's Code) be amended to read as follows:

Inadequate
levy.

Section 11. If any county finds that proceeds of the two (2) mill levy required by this act to be made for general assistance purposes are inadequate for such purposes, the County Administrator shall be empowered to submit to the Director and committee a request for a special grant-in-aid of state funds. Such request shall be accompanied by a budget of estimated necessary expenditures for general assistance for the period covered by the request and such other data and information as the Director may prescribe. For the purpose of this section general assistance shall include programs under Division 1 (b), Medical and Institutions. Upon consideration of such request and supporting budget, the committee shall allocate to the county such amount as in its judgment is proper for general assistance purposes, and immediately notify the administrator of the amount of the allocation. Disbursements for general

assistance under this section shall be made by warrant of the County Auditor in the manner prescribed in section 10, and the county shall from time to time be reimbursed for such expenditures by warrant of the State Auditor drawn against the county's allocation of funds in the State Treasury. In order to secure reimbursement under this section it shall be incumbent on the counties to maintain such records pertaining to expenditures and to conform to such other requirements in respect thereto as may be prescribed by the Department of Social Security.

Disbursement.

SEC. 4. That chapter 216, Laws of 1939 be amended by adding thereto a new section to be designated section 17-a reading as follows:

Amendment by adding new section.

Section 17-a. Recipients of Federal-aid assistance whose welfare will be furthered by temporary residence outside the state may continue to receive public assistance grants from the state if they are still in need. Their continuing eligibility for such assistance shall be subject to periodic review by the welfare department of the state and county in which they may be residing: *Provided, however,* That the medical, dental and hospital services provided, in addition to grants, to recipients living in the State of Washington, shall not be furnished to recipients removing to other states.

Temporary removal from state no bar.

Limitation.

SEC. 5. That chapter 216, Laws of 1939 be amended by adding thereto a new section immediately following section 10 and to be known as section 10-a to read as follows:

Amendment by adding new section.

Section 10-a. Any county which on January 1, 1943, had an unexpended balance in its assistance account derived from the levy imposed by section 10, chapter 216, Laws of 1939, as amended by section 3, chapter 128, Laws of 1941 (sec. 10007-110a, Rem. Supp. 1941, sec. 6233-240, Pierce's Code), over and above an amount estimated to be necessary to discharge obligations against such account, is hereby

Disposition of overplus.

authorized to release such overplus from the assistance account to the current expense fund for general county purposes and is relieved of liability to pay or account to the state therefor. For the purposes of this section, the term "obligations against such account" shall mean and include only such obligations as have been incurred within the county for general assistance purposes, including hospitals, institutional and medical care and public health activities.

Claims for
reimburse-
ment.

Any county which has heretofore, under the provisions of said section, paid any such overplus, or portion thereof, to the state shall have a valid claim against the state for reimbursement which shall be made by means of special grants-in-aid to such county for general assistance purposes under the procedure specified in section 11, chapter 216, Laws of 1939 (sec. 10007-111a, Rem. Rev. Stat., sec. 6233-241, Pierce's Code), except that no request or budget shall be required in order to authorize the Social Security Committee to allocate funds in the state treasury to the credit of the county. Such reimbursement shall be payable out of the appropriation made to the Department of Social Security and the special grants-in-aid shall be spaced at such intervals of time as to secure full reimbursement to the county during the next ensuing fiscal biennium without interfering with the normal functions of the department.

Passed the Senate February 26, 1943.

Passed the House March 8, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1943.