

pendency of the action and for the enforcement of the judgment obtained, if any, and the procedure in appeal therefrom, together with the time limitations upon such appeals, shall be as provided in the case of civil actions before justices of the peace.

Passed the Senate February 20, 1919.

Passed the House March 10, 1919.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1919.

CHAPTER 114.

[A. S. S. B. No. 6.]

CONTROL AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

AN ACT relating to the detection, control, prevention and spread of venereal diseases, and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

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

SECTION 1. That syphilis, gonorrhoea and chancroid hereinafter designated as venereal diseases are hereby declared to be contagious, infectious, communicable and dangerous to the public health. It shall be unlawful for anyone infected with these diseases or any of them to expose another person to infection.

Communica-
tion of
venereal
diseases.

SEC. 2. State, county and municipal health officers, or their authorized deputies, who are licensed physicians, within their respective jurisdictions are hereby directed and empowered, when in their judgment it is necessary to protect the public health, to make examination of persons reasonably suspected of being infected with venereal disease of a communicable nature, and to require persons infected with venereal disease of such communicable nature to report for treatment to a reputable physician and continue treatment until cured, or to submit

Powers of
health
officers.

Examina-
tion, treat-
ment and
quarantine
of infected
persons.

to treatment provided at public expense until cured, and also, when in the judgment of the state commissioner of health, it is necessary to protect the public health, to isolate or quarantine persons infected with venereal disease of such communicable nature. It shall be the duty of all local and state health officers to investigate sources of infection of venereal diseases, to cooperate with the proper officials whose duty it is to enforce laws directed against prostitution, and otherwise to use every proper means for the repression of prostitution: *Provided*, That any person suspected as herein set out may have present at the time of taking the blood sample or smear a physician of his or her choosing, who may satisfy himself that the blood or smear taken is that of the suspected person, and that the same shall be forwarded to the proper state authorities for laboratory tests, and: *Provided, further*, That the suspected person shall be informed by the health officer of his or her rights under this act.

Prisoners
may be
examined
for disease.

SEC. 3. Any person who shall be confined or imprisoned in any state, county, or city prison in the state and who may be reasonably suspected by the health officer of being infected with venereal disease shall be examined for and, if infected, treated for venereal diseases by the health authorities or their deputies who are licensed physicians. The prison authorities of any state, county, or city prison are directed to make available to the health authorities such portion of any state, county, or city prison as may be necessary for a clinic or hospital wherein all persons who may be confined or imprisoned in any such prison and who are infected with venereal disease, and all such persons who are suffering with venereal disease at the time of the expiration of their terms of imprisonment, and, in case no other suitable place for isolation or quarantine is available, such other persons as may be iso-

Use of
prisons as
hospitals.

lated or quarantined under the provisions of section 2, shall be isolated and treated at public expense until cured, or, in lieu of such isolation any of such persons may, in the discretion of the board of health, be required to report for treatment to a licensed physician, or submit to treatment provided at public expense as provided in section 2. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to interfere with the service of any sentence imposed by a court as a punishment for the commission of crime.

SEC. 4. The state board of health is hereby empowered and directed to make such rules and regulations as shall in its judgment be necessary for the carrying out of the provisions of this act, including rules and regulations providing for the control and treatment of persons isolated or quarantined under the provisions of section 2, and such other rules and regulations, not in conflict with provisions of this act, concerning the control of venereal diseases, and concerning the care, treatment and quarantine of persons infected therewith, as it may from time to time deem advisable. All such rules and regulations so made shall be of force and binding upon all county and municipal health officers and other persons affected by this act, and shall have the force and effect of law: *Provided*, That such regulations shall prescribe reasonable safeguards against the disclosure of the names of any such infected persons, who faithfully comply with the provisions of this act and the lawful regulations of the state board of health, except to officers and physicians charged with the enforcement of this act and such rules and regulations and any violation of such safeguarding regulations, shall be a gross misdemeanor.

Rules and regulations, state board of health to make.

Binding on local health officers.

Names of infected to be safeguarded.

SEC. 5. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this act or any lawful rule or regula-

Penalty for violations of act.

tion made by the state board of health pursuant to the authority herein granted, or who shall fail or refuse to obey any lawful order issued by any state, county or municipal health officer, pursuant to the authority granted in this act, shall be deemed guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Laboratory examinations essential.

SEC. 6. Diagnosis in every instance must be confirmed by laboratory examinations in a laboratory approved by the state board of health, before any person shall be isolated or committed to quarantine and before any person committed to quarantine shall be discharged therefrom.

Appeals to state commissioner of health.

SEC. 7. Any person committed to quarantine under the provisions of this act, feeling aggrieved at the finding of any health officer that he or she is infected, or at the finding of any quarantine officer that he or she has not been cured of infection, shall have the right of appeal from such finding to the state commissioner of health; and it shall be the duty of every health officer making an examination, and of every quarantine officer, to notify all persons examined or quarantined of their rights in that regard, and to supply them with the forms necessary for that purpose, upon which to make such appeals, to be provided by the state commissioner of health, and to immediately transmit any such appeals by mail to the state commissioner of health; and the state commissioner of health shall, within five days after receiving any such appeal, either in person or by regular or special physician deputy appointed for that purpose, and skilled in the diagnosis of contagious venereal diseases, examine or cause to be examined the person taking the appeal, and the finding and conclusion of the commissioner of health or his deputy so making such examination shall be final and conclusive.

Finding of state commissioner conclusive.

Division of state into quarantine districts.

SEC. 8. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act the state board of health shall

have the power and authority, from time to time, to divide the state into such number of quarantine districts consisting of one or more counties or parts of counties or municipalities as it shall deem expedient, and to establish at such place or places as it shall deem necessary quarantine stations and clinics for the detention and treatment of persons found to be infected and to establish any such quarantine station and clinic in connection with any county or city jail, or in any hospital or other public or private institution having, or which may be provided with, such necessary detention, segregation, isolation, clinic and hospital facilities as may be required and prescribed by the board, and to enter into arrangements for the conduct of such quarantine stations and clinics with the public officials or persons, associations, or corporations in charge of or maintaining and operating such institutions: *Provided*, That from and after the date of the proclamation of the governor that that certain public institution if established by the Sixteenth Legislature to be known as the Women's Industrial Home and Clinic is ready for the reception of inmates, all infected women committed to quarantine under the provisions of this act may be committed to said institution; and all women committed to quarantine in said institution shall be entitled to receive all the benefits of the mental, physical and moral training provided for the inmates of such institution.

Clinical
institution
for women.

SEC. 9. The provisions of this act shall be cumulative with the existing laws and regulations and nothing herein contained shall abridge or limit the powers of health authorities as construed by the supreme court of the State of Washington; except as herein otherwise provided.

Act cumulative.

Passed the Senate February 3, 1919.

Passed the House March 10, 1919.

Approved by the Governor March 14, 1919.