

CHAPTER 7.

[S. H. B. 136.]

SENIOR CITIZEN GRANTS.

AN ACT relating to eligibility for, and payment of, Senior Citizen Grants; amending section 3, chapter 1, Laws of 1941 (section 9998-36, Rem. Supp. 1941, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-5); section 4, chapter 1, Laws of 1941, as amended by section 1, chapter 159, Laws of 1943 (section 9998-37, Rem. Stat. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-7); and section 5, chapter 1, Laws of 1941, as amended by section 2, chapter 159, Laws of 1943 (section 9998-38, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-9); providing date and times of payments hereunder; and adding a new section to chapter 1, Laws of 1941, to be known as section 24; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 3, chapter 1, Laws of 1941 (section 9998-36, Rem. Supp. 1941, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-5), is amended to read as follows:

Definitions:

Section 3. *Definitions.* (a) "Applicant" shall mean any person applying for a Senior Citizen Grant under the provisions of this act.

Applicant.

(b) "Recipient" shall mean any person receiving a Senior Citizen Grant.

Recipient.

(c) "Grant" or "Senior Citizen Grant" shall mean the funds, federal and/or state made available to recipients under the terms of this act.

Senior Citizens Grant.

(d) "Senior Citizen" shall mean a person eligible for a grant under the terms of this act, and shall not be construed as limiting eligibility for grants to citizens of the United States or the State of Washington.

Senior Citizen.

(e) "Department" shall mean the Department of Social Security or any other agency or department which may hereinafter be designated to administer the provisions of this act.

Department.

(f) "Director" shall mean the administrative head of the department, whether an individual or a board.

Director.

**Income.** (g) "Income" shall mean regular or recurrent gains in cash or kind, excepting therefrom:

**Use of premises.** (1) The value of the use or occupancy of the premises in which the applicant resides.

**Foodstuffs, utilities, services.** (2) Foodstuffs, livestock, fuel, light or water produced by or donated to applicant or applicant's family exclusively for the use of applicant or applicant's family.

**Gifts.** (3) Gifts in cash or kind of a casual and non-recurring nature which do not materially affect the Senior Citizen's income.

**Sale of property.** (4) The proceeds from the sale of property which is not a resource, provided such proceeds are used for the purchase of property which is not a resource.

**Resources defined.** (h) "Resources" shall mean any property which the applicant owns legally or beneficially, excepting therefrom:

**Ability of relatives.** (1) The ability of relatives or friends of the applicant to contribute to the support of the applicant.

**Insurance policies.** (2) Insurance policies, the cash surrender value of which does not exceed \$500.

**Home.** (3) The homestead, home or place of residence of applicant or the spouse of applicant.

**Personal property.** (4) Intangible property or personal property, the cash value of which does not exceed \$200.

**Personal effects.** (5) The personal effects of the applicant, including clothing, furniture, household equipment and motor vehicle.

**Foodstuff, utility, services.** (6) Foodstuffs, livestock, fuel, light or water produced by the applicant, applicant's spouse or family, exclusively for the use of applicant or applicant's family.

**Amendment.** SEC. 2. Section 4, chapter 1, Laws of 1941, as amended by section 1, chapter 159, Laws of 1943 (section 9998-37, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-7), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4. *Eligibility.* Senior Citizen Grant shall be awarded to any person who is without resources who: Eligibility.

- (a) Has attained the age of sixty-five. Age.
- (b) Has a yearly income which is less than \$600 and a monthly income which is less than \$50 or has income insufficient to meet his or her needs. Income.
- (c) Has been a resident of the State of Washington for at least five years within the last ten. Residence.
- (d) Is not at the time of making application a permanent inmate of a public institution of a custodial, correctional, or curative character: *Provided*, That this shall not prevent the Department from paying a grant to meet personal and incidental needs of Senior Citizens in county hospitals. Not a public charge.
- (e) Has not made a voluntary assignment or transfer of property or cash for the purpose of qualifying for a Senior Citizen Grant. County hospitals.  
Has not made assignment or transfer of property.

SEC. 3. Section 5, chapter 1, Laws of 1941, as amended by section 2, chapter 159, Laws of 1943 (section 9998-38, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-9), is amended to read as follows:

Section 5. *How and When Grants Shall Be Paid.* Senior Citizen Grants shall be awarded on a uniform state-wide basis: Uniform basis.

- (a) To each eligible Senior Citizen sixty-five years of age or over for the purpose of assisting him to meet his needs: *Provided*, That such grant when added to his income shall equal not less than \$50 per month. In order to determine a Senior Citizen's need the Department shall establish objective budgetary guides based upon actual living cost studies of the items in the budget. Such living cost studies shall be renewed or revised at least once a year; and whenever there is a change of five per cent (5%) or more in the cost of any of the items of the budget common to any category of Senior Citizens such change shall be reflected in the deter- Method of computation

mination of his need. For the purpose of this section the term "category" shall mean such distinction as prevails between single Senior Citizens living alone, husbands and wives living together and any other sizeable group of Senior Citizens who can by determination of the Department be placed in separate categories. The budgetary guide shall include the cost of basic items essential to the maintenance of the Senior Citizen, and shall make provisions for other items, which though not common to all may be essential to the maintenance of a wholesome standard by individuals in unusual circumstances: *Provided*, That Senior Citizens found to be without any resources and income shall receive a grant of not less than \$50 per month: *Provided further*, That upon any determination or redetermination of the need of the recipients the Department shall inform each Senior Citizen of the amount of the grant and the basis upon which it is determined. To each Senior Citizen residing in a county hospital the Department shall award a grant to meet his needs of a personal and incidental character.

(b) If the Federal government lowers the age limit at which matching funds will be granted for old age grants, then and in that event the state shall award Senior Citizen Grants of at least twice the maximum Federal funds available per person per month to all eligible above the age as established by the Federal government, such grants to be awarded on the terms and conditions as provided for in section 5, subsection (a).

(c) Upon approval of an application, the grant shall be paid as of the date of application.

SEC. 4. Chapter 1, Laws of 1941, is amended by adding thereto a new section to be known as section 24, which shall read as follows:

Section 24. The increased grants provided herein shall be paid to all eligible applicants and recipients as of May 1, 1945: *Provided*, That if the Department is unable by that date to make adjustments in the payment of the grant to any Senior Citizen eligible as of that date the adjustment in the amount of the grant shall be made retroactive to that date.

Increased grants paid May 1, 1945.

SEC. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect May 1, 1945.

Effective May 1, 1945.

Passed the House February 9, 1945.

Passed the Senate February 14, 1945.

Approved by the Governor February 16, 1945.

---

## CHAPTER 8.

[ S. B. 42. ]

### DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES.

AN ACT making a deficiency appropriation for the payment of operations expense for the Department of Labor and Industries, and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. By reason of a deficiency existing in the appropriations made by the Twenty-eighth Regular Session of the Legislature, the following sums, or so much thereof as shall severally be found necessary, are hereby appropriated out of any moneys in several funds in the state treasury hereinafter named and for the purposes herein below designated for the fiscal biennium beginning April 1, 1943, and ending March 31, 1945:

Deficiency appropriation Department of Labor and Industries.