

CHAPTER 232.

[S. B. 254.]

EDUCATION—ASSISTANCE FOR BLIND STUDENTS.

AN ACT providing assistance for blind students attending institutions of higher learning; amending chapter 154, Laws of 1935; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

Amendment. SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 154, Laws of 1935 (sec. 4542-1, Rem. Rev. Stat. Supp.), is amended to read as follows:

Blind student defined. Section 1. A blind student is defined for the purpose of this act to be a person who is unable to read because of defective eyesight and by reason of studies which he has previously pursued is entitled to admission to an institution of higher learning within the State of Washington. Such blind student must have been a resident of the State of Washington for one year next preceding the date upon which he received any benefits under this act, and must make a reasonable showing that he does not have resources with which to finance his education. Inability to read because of defective eyesight may be established for the purposes of this act by a letter from a physician skilled in treatment of the eye.

Amendment. SEC. 2. Section 2, chapter 154, Laws of 1935 (sec. 4542-2, Rem. Rev. Stat. Supp.), is amended to read as follows:

Allocations to blind students. Section 2. There is hereby allocated to each and every blind student attending any institution of higher learning within the State of Washington a sum not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per quarter, or so much thereof as may be necessary in the opinion of the board administering this act, to provide said blind student with readers, books, recordings, recorders, or other means of reproducing and imparting ideas, while attending said institution

of higher learning: *Provided*, That the said institution notifies the board administering this act that it will waive tuition and laboratory fees for the said blind student; said allocation to be made out of the monies in the General Fund not otherwise appropriated for the purposes aforesaid.

Proviso.

SEC. 3. Section 3, chapter 154, Laws of 1935 (sec. 4542-3, Rem. Rev. Stat. Supp.), is amended to read as follows:

Amendment.

Section 3. All money or moneys necessary to carry out the provisions of this act shall be distributed under the supervision of the State Board of Education of the State of Washington. The moneys or any part thereof allocated in the manner more particularly referred to in the section next preceding this shall, for furnishing said books or equipment or supplying said services, be paid by said State Board of Education directly to such blind student, heretofore mentioned, or to his parents, guardian, or some adult person, if the blind student is a minor, designated by said blind student to act as trustee of said funds: *Provided, however*, That any portion of said annual allowance for the use of any blind student which is unexpended for readers, books and equipment may, in the discretion of said State Board, be by it used for the purpose of defraying personal living expenses of said blind student while attending said institution of higher learning: *And provided further*, That no blind student shall be charged any tuition or laboratory fee while attending any state institution.

Moneys distributed under supervision of State Board of Education.

Unexpended portion may be used to defray living expenses.

No tuition or laboratory fees.

SEC. 2. This act is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the state government and shall take effect immediately.

Emergency.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1949.

Passed the House March 7, 1949.

Approved by the Governor March 22, 1949.