

CHAPTER 219.

[ H. B. 253. ]

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE—SURPLUS COMMODITIES.

AN ACT relating to public assistance and the distribution of surplus commodities; amending section 1, chapter 112, Laws of 1961 and RCW 74.04.380 and adding a new section to chapter 26, Laws of 1959 and to chapter 74.04 RCW; and prescribing a penalty.

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

RCW 74.04.380 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 112, Laws of 1961 and RCW 74.04.380 are each amended to read as follows:

Federal surplus food commodities. Agreements—Personnel—Facilities—Discontinuance of program.

The director of the state department of public assistance, from funds appropriated to his department for such purpose, shall, upon receipt of authorization from the governor, provide for the receiving, warehousing and distributing of federal and other surplus food commodities for the use and assistance of recipients of public assistance or other needy families and individuals certified as eligible to obtain such commodities. The director is authorized to enter into such agreements as may be necessary with the federal government or any state agency in order to participate in any program of distribution of surplus food commodities including but not limited to a food stamp program. The director shall hire personnel, establish distribution centers and acquire such facilities as may be required to carry out the intent of this section; and he may carry out any such program as a sole operation of the department or in conjunction or cooperation with any similar program of distribution by private individuals or organizations, any department of the state or any political subdivision of the state.

The director shall discontinue such program, or any part thereof, whenever in the determination of

the governor such program, or any part thereof, is no longer in the best interest of the state.

SEC. 2. There is added to chapter 26, Laws of 1959 and to chapter 74.04 RCW a new section to read as follows: New section.

It shall be unlawful for any recipient of federal or other surplus commodities received under this act to sell, transfer, barter or otherwise dispose of such commodities to any other person. It shall be unlawful for any person to receive, possess or use any surplus commodities received under this act unless he has been certified as eligible to receive, possess and use such commodities by the state department of public assistance. Unlawful acts  
—Penalty.

Violation of the provisions of this act shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six months or by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or both.

Passed the House February 25, 1963.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1963.

Approved by the Governor March 26, 1963.