

CHAPTER 171

[Substitute House Bill No. 561]
FUNDS FOR PRISONERS RELEASED FROM
STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

AN ACT Relating to release of prisoners; adding new sections to chapter 72.02 RCW; repealing section 72.08.343, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.08.343; and repealing section 72.12.122, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.12.122.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 72.02 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Any person serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a state correctional facility for convicted felons, pursuant to court commitment, who is thereafter released upon an order of parole of the state board of prison terms and paroles, or who is discharged from custody upon expiration of sentence, or who is ordered discharged from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, shall be entitled to retain his earnings from labor or employment while in confinement and shall be supplied by the superintendent of the state correctional facility with suitable and presentable clothing, the sum of forty dollars for subsistence, and transportation by the least expensive method of public transportation not to exceed the cost of one hundred dollars to his place of residence or the place designated in his parole plan, or to the place from which committed if such person is being discharged on expiration of sentence, or discharged from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction: PROVIDED, That up to sixty additional dollars may be made available to the parolee for necessary personal and living expenses upon application to and approval by such person's parole officer. If in the opinion of the superintendent suitable arrangements have been made to provide the person to be released with suitable clothing and/or the expenses of transportation, the superintendent may consent to such arrangement. If the superintendent has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be released has ample funds, with the exception of earnings from labor or employment while in confinement, to assume the expenses of clothing, transportation, or the expenses for which payments made pursuant to sections 1 or 2 of this act or any one or more of such expenses, the person released shall be required to assume such expenses.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 72.02 RCW a new section to read as follows:

As state, federal or other funds are available, the secretary of the department of social and health services or his designee is authorized, in his discretion, not to provide the forty dollars

subsistence money or the optional sixty dollars to a person or persons released as described in section 1 of this act, and instead to utilize the authorization and procedure contained in this section relative to such person or persons.

Any person designated by the secretary serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a state correctional facility for convicted felons, pursuant to court commitment, who is thereafter released upon an order of parole of the state board of prison terms and paroles, or is discharged from custody upon expiration of sentence, or is ordered discharged from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, shall receive the sum of fifty-five dollars per week for a period of up to six weeks. The initial weekly payment shall be made to such person upon his release or parole by the superintendent of the institution. Subsequent weekly payments shall be made to such person by the probation and parole officer at the office of such probation or parole officer. In addition to the initial six weekly payments provided for in this section, a probation and parole officer and his district supervisor may, at their discretion, continue such payments up to a maximum of twenty additional weeks when they are satisfied that such person is actively seeking employment and that such payments are necessary to continue the efforts of such person to gain employment: PROVIDED, That if, at the time of release or parole, in the opinion of the superintendent funds are otherwise available to such person, with the exception of earnings from labor or employment while in confinement, such weekly sums of money or part thereof shall not be provided to such person.

When a person receiving such payments provided for in this section becomes employed, he may continue to receive payments for two weeks after the date he becomes employed but payments made after he becomes employed shall be discontinued as of the date he is first paid for such employment: PROVIDED, That no person shall receive payments for a period exceeding the twenty-six week maximum as established in this section.

The secretary of the department of social and health services may annually adjust the amount of weekly payment provided for in this section to reflect changes in the cost of living and the purchasing power of the sum set for the previous year.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The following acts or parts of acts are hereby repealed:

(1) Section 72.08.343, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.08.343; and

(2) Section 72.12.122, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.12.122.

Passed the House March 26, 1971.

Passed the Senate May 5, 1971.

Approved by the Governor May 20, 1971.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 21, 1971.

CHAPTER 172

[Substitute House Bill No. 762]

ADOPTIONS--

PREPLACEMENT STUDIES AND REPORTS--

DATA CARDS

AN ACT Relating to adoptions; providing for preplacement studies of prospective adoptive parents and requiring the filing of certain information; amending section 9, chapter 291, Laws of 1955 and RCW 26.32.090; and adding new sections to chapter 291, Laws of 1955 and to chapter 26.32 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. Section 9, chapter 291, Laws of 1955 and RCW 26.32.090 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon the filing of a petition for adoption, the court shall cause an investigation of the propriety of the adoption to be made. The court shall appoint an approved agency or any qualified salaried court employee or any other suitable and proper person as next friend of the child to make such investigation. The investigation shall be made without expense to the petitioner. The investigator appointed by the court shall make a report in writing to the court within sixty days from the time of the appointment unless further time be granted by the court. Such report shall be in writing and contain all reasonably available information concerning the physical and mental condition of the child, the religion of the child, if any, and if unknown, then the report shall designate unknown, the parents of the child, and the ~~((physical, mental, moral, and financial condition))~~ home environment, family life, health, facilities and resources of the petitioners, and any other facts and circumstances relating to the propriety and advisability of the adoption. Any preplacement report on the petitioner required by this chapter to be filed with the court shall be made available to the next friend; the next friend may in his discretion rely on its contents and adopt its recommendations and may incorporate the same in the report of the next friend.

When the object of the adoption proceeding is the petition of a parent to adopt the child of the other spouse, the report of the next friend shall be made within ten days of the date of appointment, unless such time is extended by the court, and in such cases the