

CHAPTER 217.

[S. B. 317.]

MENTALLY ILL PERSONS—PERSONAL FUNDS
AND PROPERTY.

AN ACT relating to the hospitalization of the mentally ill; providing for payment to the superintendent of certain property owned by the mentally ill; amending section 49, chapter 139, Laws of 1951 (uncodified); and adding to chapter 139, Laws of 1951 (uncodified), a new section.

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

New section.

SECTION 1. There is added to chapter 139, Laws of 1951 (uncodified), a new section to read as follows:

Involuntary hospitalization; transfer of personalty.

Upon receipt of a written request signed by the superintendent stating that a designated patient of such hospital is involuntarily hospitalized therein, and that no guardian of his estate has been appointed, any person, bank, firm or corporation having possession of any money, bank accounts, or choses in action owned by such patient, may, if the balance due does not exceed one thousand dollars, deliver the same to the superintendent and mail written notice thereof to such patient at such hospital. The receipt of the superintendent shall be full and complete acquittance for such payment and the person, bank, firm or corporation making such payment shall not be liable to the patient or his legal representatives. All funds so received by the superintendent shall be deposited in such patient's personal account at such hospital and be administered in accordance with this act.

Defense of transfer.

If any proceeding is brought in any court to recover property so delivered, the attorney general shall defend the same without cost to the person, bank, firm or corporation effecting such delivery, and the state shall indemnify such person, bank,

Indemnity.

firm or corporation against any judgment rendered as a result of such proceeding.

SEC. 2. Section 49, chapter 139, Laws of 1951 (uncodified), is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

The superintendent of a state hospital shall be the custodian without compensation of such personal property of a patient involuntarily hospitalized therein as may come into the superintendent's possession while the patient is under the jurisdiction of the hospital. As such custodian, the superintendent shall have authority to disburse monies from the patients' funds for the following purposes only and subject to the following limitations: Involuntary hospitalization; superintendent custodian of personalty.

(1) The superintendent may disburse any of the funds in his possession belonging to a patient for such personal needs of that patient as may be deemed necessary by the superintendent; and Limitations.

(2) Whenever the funds belonging to any one patient exceed the sum of three hundred dollars, the superintendent may apply the excess to the payment of the state hospitalization charges of such patient; and Personal needs.

(3) When a patient is paroled, the superintendent shall deliver unto the said patient all or such portion of the funds or other property belonging to the patient as the superintendent may deem necessary and proper in the interests of the patient's welfare, and the superintendent may during the parole period deliver to the patient such additional property or funds belonging to the patient as the superintendent may from time to time determine necessary and proper. When a patient is discharged from the jurisdiction of the hospital, the superintendent shall deliver to such patient all funds or other property belonging to the patient. Hospitalization charges.

All funds held by the superintendent as custodian may be deposited in a single fund. Annual reports of receipts and expenditures shall be forwarded Parole of patient.

to the department of public institutions, and shall be open to inspection by interested parties.

Effect of appointment of guardian.

The appointment of a guardian for the estate of such patient shall terminate the superintendent's authority to pay state hospitalization charges upon the superintendent's receipt of a certified copy of letters of guardianship. Upon the guardian's request, the superintendent shall forward to such guardian any funds or other property of the patient remaining in the superintendent's possession, together with a final accounting of receipts and expenditures.

Passed the Senate March 11, 1953.

Passed the House March 10, 1953.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1953.

CHAPTER 218.

[S. B. 325.]

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE—ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF SAFETY DIVISION.

AN ACT relating to workmen's compensation; providing for financing of the safety division of the department of labor and industries; amending section 51.16.100, RCW; adding a new section to chapter 51.16, RCW; and repealing section 72, chapter 130, Laws of 1919 (uncodified).

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

Amendment. SECTION 1. Section 51.16.100, RCW, as derived from section 1, chapter 247, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows:

Accident fund; reclassification and transfer of funds.

It is the intent that the accident fund shall ultimately become neither more nor less than self-supporting, except as provided in section 2 of this act and, if in the adjustment of premium rates by the director the moneys paid into the fund by any class or classes shall be insufficient to properly and safely