

CHAPTER 100.

[H. B. 181.]

REGULATION OF PLACES OF REFUGE.

AN ACT relating to the licensing and inspecting of Places of Refuge; prescribing duties of officers in connection therewith; adopting minimum and certain other regulatory provisions; amending sections 1 and 3 (sections 8358a and 8358c, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 728-60), and adding two new sections to chapter 70, Laws of 1943.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 70, Laws of 1943 (section 8358a, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 728-60), is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

Section 1. The term "Place of Refuge" when used in this act shall mean any hospital, asylum, alms house, building or dwelling for housing the aged, infirm or imbeciles, wherein three or more persons, not related by blood or marriage to the householder, owner, operator or manager thereof, are lodged or boarded more than fifteen (15) days in any calendar month: *Provided*, That the term shall not include any hospital approved by the American College of Surgeons or the American College of Physicians, or any state institution. Place of refuge defined.

SEC. 2. Section 3, chapter 70, Laws of 1943 (section 8358c, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 728-60g), is amended to read as follows: Amendments.

Section 3. The County Commissioners of each county shall, before granting any license to any Place of Refuge, require that the premises to be licensed be inspected by the County or District Health Officer and by the State Fire Marshal or his deputy when outside the limits of cities with a paid fire department, or the Fire Chief when inside the limits of a city with a paid fire department, and shall further require that said licensed premises be inspected and a written report approving same be sub- License to operate.

mitted quarterly by said County or District Health Officer: *Provided, however,* That in incorporated cities having a paid fire department and which have adopted a building code, the license shall be issued by the City Council or City Commission, as the case may be, after proper inspection and a written report approving same be submitted by the City Health Officer and Fire Chief.

Amend-
ment.

SEC. 3. Chapter 70, Laws of 1943, is hereby amended by adding a new section immediately following section 10, to be known as section 11, which shall read as follows:

Rules and
regulations
relating to
sanitation
and safety.

Section 11. The Board of County Commissioners shall from time to time promulgate such rules and regulations relating to sanitary and health conditions and to fire and building standards as it may deem necessary for the protection of life and property. All such rules and regulations shall be initiated by resolution of the board, a copy of which shall be on file with the county auditor for five (5) days prior to its final adoption, with public notice of such filing being given by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, and such regulations shall become effective thirty (30) days following their adoption. Whenever any regulation promulgated by the board requires any applicant or licensee to make structural changes in the premises used or sought to be used as a Place of Refuge the applicant or licensee may apply, and the board in its discretion may grant, an extension of not more than sixty (60) days in which such changes may be made without disqualifying the applicant or licensee from eligibility to a license: *Provided,* No such extension may be granted when the conditions to be remedied are such as to involve imminent danger to life and property: *Provided further,* That (excepting in cases of imminent danger) until six (6) months after the cessation of pres-

ent hostilities as declared by the President of the United States and the Congress, the board shall exercise discretion in enforcing any rule, regulation or requirement, by giving consideration to the inability of the licensee to obtain critical building material. The licensee, however, shall agree in writing to comply with the changes ordered as soon as the necessary materials are obtainable.

The rules and regulations of the State Department of Public Health, the County Health Department and the office of the State Fire Marshal relating or applicable to places of refuge are adopted by reference as a part of this act and shall have the same force and effect as if they were recited herein.

SEC. 4. Chapter 70, Laws of 1943, is hereby amended by adding a new section immediately following section 11, above set forth, to be known as section 12, and which shall read as follows:

Amend-
ments.

Section 12. Every Place of Refuge shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

All steps shall have a firm guard rail, and all walks shall be in good condition.

Minimum re-
quirements.

The interior of the house shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times. Rodents and insect nuisances must be eliminated when found. Rooms shall be homelike and attractive.

Floors and ceilings of all rooms and wards shall be of such type of material as to lend itself well to thorough and repeated cleansing.

Heating of all rooms shall be safe and adequate. No gas stoves shall be used which are not directly connected with an outside room, and all gas connections shall be of a metal type.

All rooms and wards shall have adequate natural lighting. In addition artificial lighting shall be sufficient and well placed for comfortable reading. Adequate lighting in the halls and bathrooms shall be required both day and night.

Minimum re-
quirements.

Window space shall not be less than one-fifth ($\frac{1}{5}$ th) of the floor space. All windows shall have openings adequate to provide necessary ventilation. They shall be screened and shall be fitted with shields and plates to protect patients from direct currents of air. If forced ventilation is used, it shall be in conformance with Book 15, Part 5, of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health, Division of Sanitation.

All wards and rooms shall be of sufficient size to allow at least seventy (70) square feet of floor space for each adult patient, with at least three (3) feet of space between all beds.

Patients shall not be housed above the second story unless adequate fire escapes are provided and then only in accordance with the patient's illness and disability. Basement rooms, in addition to meeting requirements as to light, floor space and ventilation, must have the specific approval of the County Health Department before occupancy is authorized.

All bathrooms shall be equipped with sanitary toilets, wash basins, and bathing facilities. A safe and sanitary supply of both hot and cold water shall be available in all bathrooms. No common drinking cups shall be allowed. There shall be provided in either the room, ward, or other convenient place adequate closet or locker and drawer space, and a towel rack with clean towels and wash cloths for the exclusive use of each patient.

Bed linen shall be changed sufficiently often to be fresh and clean. Blankets shall be cleaned periodically. Fresh bedding and linens shall be supplied to each new patient. All sheets shall completely cover the mattress and tuck in at least four (4) inches on all sides.

If a municipal water supply is not available, the water supply shall be of such type as to meet the requirements of the State Department of Health.

When a municipal sewer system is not available, a method of sewage disposal must be provided which meets the approval of the State Director of Health. All plans for the authorization of new construction of sewer plants shall be submitted to the State Department of Health for approval.

Minimum requirements.

All contagious and infectious diseases shall be completely isolated from other patients according to the regulations of the State Board of Health. All pus cases must be isolated from other patients who have open wounds.

Unless otherwise approved by the County Health Department, no Place of Refuge shall be operated without having a registered nurse, or a licensed physician, as resident supervisor of nursing services: *Provided*, That none of the provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable to any home or place of refuge conducted for or by members of a recognized religious sect, denomination or organization which in accordance with its creed, tenets, or principles, depends for healing upon prayer in the practice of religion.

No approval shall be given to a person to supervise nursing care who is less than twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of the application, or who is not of good moral character.

All food shall be prepared, handled, and distributed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health.

Three meals a day shall be served at regular intervals unless otherwise ordered by the attending physician. Special diets when ordered by the patient's physician must be provided in accordance with the doctor's recommendation.

All food when served to either bed or ambulatory patients must be served warm and in a sanitary and attractive manner.

Minimum re-
quirements.

Table linens shall be freshly laundered. Paper napkins are recommended. If cloth napkins are used, they shall be freshly laundered.

A record of each patient must be kept, giving: Name, address, age, name and address of nearest relative, name of doctor to be called in case of an emergency, the date of admission and discharge, and the name and address of person or agency placing the patient in the home.

Reports to
Health
Department.

Monthly reports shall be made to the County Health Department stating the names of the patients admitted, patients discharged, and patients who have died during the period. In the event of death, the cause of death shall be indicated.

Passed the House March 7, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.

CHAPTER 101.

[H. B. 183.]

EVIDENCE OF DEATH.

AN ACT providing for the receiving as prima facie evidence in any court, office or other place in this state, official findings, records, reports, or certified copies thereof, of death, presumed death, missing or other status, issued by the Secretaries of War and Navy and other Federal officers and employees; and declaring an emergency.

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

Written
finding of
death by
Federal
officer.

SECTION 1. A written finding of presumed death, made by the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, or other officer or employee of the United States authorized to make such finding, pursuant to the Federal Missing Persons Act (56 Stat. 143, 1092, and P. L. 408, Ch. 371, 2d Sess. 78th Cong.; U. S. C. App. Supp. 1001-17), as now or hereafter amended, or a duly certified copy of such finding,