
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **447**

Session of
1961

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. BELL AND WARE III,
APRIL 4, 1961.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND
WELFARE, APRIL 4, 1961.

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 24 1937 (P L 2051) entitled "An act relating to public assistance providing for and regulating assistance to certain classes of persons designated and defined as dependent children aged persons blind persons and other persons requiring relief providing for the administration of this act by the Department of Public Assistance and county boards of assistance hereby created for this purpose authorizing the Department of Public Assistance to cooperate with and to accept and disburse

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill. Underscoring indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

moneys received from the United States Government for assistance to such persons providing for the liquidation of the State Emergency Relief Board Boards of Trustees of the Mothers' Assistance fund and Boards of Trustees of Pension Fund for the Blind and repealing laws relating to mothers' assistance pensions for the blind old age assistance and the State Emergency Relief Board" extending assistance to include inpatient hospital care for aged persons removing certain limitations on the receipt of assistance by aged persons and making an appropriation

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

1 Section 1 Section 2 act of June 24 1937 (P L 2051) known as the
2 "Public Assistance Law" amended May 15 1956 (P L 1573) is amended
3 to read

4 Section 2 Definitions As used in this act unless otherwise indicated
5 "Assistance" means assistance in money goods shelter medical
6 care work relief or services provided from or with State or Federal
7 funds for indigent persons who reside in Pennsylvania and need assist-
8 ance to provide for themselves and their dependents a decent and health-
9 ful standard of living and for indigent homeless or transient persons

1 The word assistance shall be construed to include pensions for those blind
2 persons who are entitled to pensions as provided in this act and to
3 include also burial for those indigent persons who were receiving
4 assistance at the time of their death The word assistance shall also be
5 construed to include sufficient financial assistance to enable physically
6 disabled persons who require nursing home care as prescribed by re-
7 sponsible physicians to secure adequate nursing home care even though
8 the rate of such assistance may be greater than the usual rate of assist-
9 ance to persons who do not need nursing home care The word assist-
10 ance shall also be construed to include inpatient hospital care of re-
11 ipients of assistance who are sixty-five years of age or over

12 "General Assistance" means assistance provided to persons entitled
13 under this act to assistance other than dependent children aged per-
14 sons blind persons and disabled persons

15 "Local Board" means any county board of assistance established
16 under the provisions of this act

17 The masculine pronoun includes the feminine.

18 Section 2 Subsection (b) of section 9 of the act amended August
19 22 1953 (P L 1361) is amended to read

1 Section 9 Eligibility for Assistance Any person residing within
2 this Commonwealth shall hereafter be entitled to receive public assist-
3 ance as provided by law without regard to the period of time he or
4 she has resided therein and the Department of Public Assistance shall
5 grant assistance without regard to the period of time any person seek-
6 ing public assistance and otherwise entitled thereto shall have resided
7 within this State Provided however That if the applicant for public
8 assistance has resided in Pennsylvania for less than one year im-
9 mediately preceding the date of making application for assistance such
10 person shall only be entitled to receive public assistance if he or she
11 was last a resident of a state which by law regulation or reciprocal
12 agreement with Pennsylvania grants public assistance to a person who
13 has resided therein for less than one year A child less than one year
14 of age is considered as deriving residence from either (1) a parent or
15 (2) other relative with whom he is living as provided in this section
16 Except as hereinafter specifically otherwise provided in the case of
17 pensions for the blind all persons of the following classes except those
18 who hereafter advocate and actively participate by an overt act or acts
19 in a movement proposing a change in the form of government of the
20 United States by means not provided for in the Constitution of the

1 United States shall be eligible to receive assistance in accordance with
2 rules regulations and standards established by the Department of Pub-
3 lic Assistance with the approval of the State Board of Assistance as to
4 eligibility for assistance and as to its nature and extent Absence in
5 the service of the Commonwealth or of the United States shall not
6 be deemed to interrupt residence in the Commonwealth if a domicile
7 has not been acquired outside the Commonwealth

8 * * *

9 (b) Aged Persons An aged person is defined as one who (1) is
10 sixty-five years of age or more (2) is not at the time of receiving assist-
11 ance an inmate of a public institution other than a public medical in-
12 stitution and (3) has not conveyed or transferred his real or personal
13 property of the value of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or upwards
14 without fair consideration within two years preceding the date of
15 making such application

16 * * *

17 Section 3 The sum of eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000)
18 or as much thereof as may be necessary is appropriated to the Depart-
19 ment of Public Welfare for the purpose of providing inpatient hospital

489—Printer's No.

- 1 care in accordance with the provisions of the act to which this is an
- 2 amendment for the fiscal period beginning June 1 1961.

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of
Representatives.

.....
Chief Clerk, Senate

.....
President pro tempore, Senate

.....
Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The day of A. D. 1961.

.....
Governor