

persons or persons with impaired vision for the purpose of improving, conserving or restoring their vision. These services and aids shall not be furnished unless they are otherwise unavailable, and in no case shall the total cost thereof exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per person *during any period of eighteen months;*

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Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Act effective
immediately.

APPROVED—The 21st day of May, A. D. 1956.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 553

AN ACT

Amending the act of April nine, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 177), entitled "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the Executive Department thereof and the administrative departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof, including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative officers, and of the several administrative departments, boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards, and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and commissions shall be determined," authorizing the State Council for the Blind to accept certain payments and donations, and increasing the services which may be given by it to certain blind persons.

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

The Administra-
tive Code of 1929.

Section 1. Subsection (c), (j) and (l) of the section two thousand three hundred twenty, act of April nine, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 177), known as "The Administration Code of 1929," amended July seven, one thousand nine hundred forty-seven (Pamphlet Laws 1440), are amended to read:

Subsection (c),
(j) and (l),
section 2320, act
of April 9, 1929,
P. L. 177,
amended July 7,
1947, P. L. 1440,
further amended.

Section 2320. State Council for the Blind.—The State Council for the Blind shall have the power, and its duties shall be:

* * * * *

(c) To cooperate with State and local agencies, both public and private, *the Federal Government or agen-*

cies thereof, and political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, in taking steps to prevent the loss of sight, in alleviating the condition of blind persons, and persons of impaired vision, in extending and improving the education, advisement, training, placement, and conservation of the blind, and in promoting their personal, economic, social and civic well-being;

* * * * *

(j) To take any action and to adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the objectives of this section and, in furtherance of those objectives, to accept any grants, [or] contributions, *payments or donations* from the Federal Government or any agency thereof.

Any such grants, [or] contributions, *payments or donations* shall be held by the State Treasurer as custodian for the State Council for the Blind, and shall be paid out on requisition of the State Council for the Blind without further appropriation. *State appropriations as well as such grants, contributions, payments or donations, as hereinabove mentioned, shall be available to the State Council for the Blind for the purpose of this section and for such research, extension or improvement projects as may pertain or relate to the purposes of this section or appropriate Federal Vocational Rehabilitation statutes;*

* * * * *

(l) For the purpose of improving the economic conditions of the industrially blind; to furnish and make available [medical and psychological examinations; medical and surgical treatment; hospitalization; prosthetic appliances and aids; vocational counseling and guidance; prevocational and vocational training; transportation for medical and training purposes; maintenance for medical and training purposes; placement in suitable employment with necessary occupational tools and equipment; and post-placement employment adjustment; these services to be made available] *rehabilitation services to the extent necessary to achieve the purpose of this section* to residents of the Commonwealth, who have reached their sixteenth birthday, and who have a thirty percent or greater loss in *binocular* visual functioning, and who are suffering from a [static] permanent employment handicap [by reason of this loss of visual functioning].

“Rehabilitation Services,” for the purpose of this section, means:

(1) *Diagnostic and related services, including transportation incidental to the determination of whether an individual is a handicapped individual and, if so, his eligibility for and the nature and scope of other rehabilitation services to be provided;*

- (2) *Training, both prevocational and vocational;*
- (3) *Counseling and guidance;*
- (4) *Placement in employment commensurate with the individual's abilities and interests, which may include post-placement services;*
- (5) *Maintenance not exceeding the estimated costs of subsistence during rehabilitation, to include the provision of money to cover a handicapped individual's necessary living expenses and health maintenance essential to achieving his rehabilitation;*
- (6) *Occupational licenses, tools, equipment, initial stocks and supplies and training materials;*
- (7) *Transportation;*
- (8) *Physical restoration to include:*

Corrective surgery or therapeutic treatment necessary to correct or substantially modify a physical or mental condition which is stable or slowly progressive and constitutes a substantial handicap to employment, but is of such a nature that such correction or modification may reasonably be expected to eliminate or substantially reduce such handicap within a reasonable length of time, and includes psychiatric treatment, dentistry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech or hearing therapy, treatment of medical complications and emergencies which are associated with or arise out of physical restoration services or are inherent in the condition under treatment, and other medical services related to rehabilitation, necessary hospitalization either in-patient or out-patient, nursing or rest home care in connection with surgery or treatment, prosthetic devices essential to obtaining or retaining employment;

(9) *Any other services as may be deemed necessary in the rehabilitation of industrially blind individuals.*

Section 2. Section 2320 of the act is amended by adding, at the end thereof, two new clauses to read:

Section 2320. State Council for the Blind.—The State Council for the Blind shall have the power, and its duties shall be:

* * * * *

(m) *For the purpose of increasing employment opportunities for the severely handicapped and improving other rehabilitation services, to establish and operate or to provide the means for charitable nonprofit making corporations to establish and operate workshops or other rehabilitation facilities, where not otherwise available.*

“Workshop,” for the purpose of this section, means a place where any manufacture or handiwork is car-

Section 2320, act of April 9, 1929, P. L. 177, amended by adding two new clauses, (m) and (n).

ried on, and which is operated for the primary purpose of providing remunerative employment to severely handicapped individuals who cannot be readily absorbed in the competitive labor market.

“Rehabilitation facility,” for the purpose of this section, means a facility operated for the primary purpose of assisting in the rehabilitation of blind or visually handicapped individuals,

(1) Which provides one or more of the following types of services:

- (a) Testing, fitting or training in the use of prosthetic devices;
- (b) Prevocational or conditioning therapy;
- (c) Physical or occupational therapy;
- (d) Adjustment training; or
- (e) Evaluation or control of special disabilities; or

(2) Through which is provided an integrated program of medical, psychological, social and vocational evaluation and services under competent professional supervision.

“Nonprofit,” for the purpose of this section, when used with respect to a rehabilitation facility or a workshop, means a rehabilitation facility and a workshop, respectively, owned and operated by a corporation or association, no part of the net earnings of which inures or may lawfully inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and the income of which is exempt from taxation under section 101 (6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

“Establishment of a workshop or rehabilitation facility,” for the purpose of this section, means—

(1 a) In the case of a workshop, the expansion, remodeling or alteration of existing buildings necessary to adapt such buildings to workshop purposes, or to increase the employment opportunities in workshops, and the acquisition of initial equipment necessary for new workshops, or to increase the employment opportunities in workshops, and

(2 a) In the case of a rehabilitation facility, the expansion, remodeling or alteration of existing buildings and initial equipment of such buildings necessary to adapt such buildings to rehabilitation facility purposes, or to increase their effectiveness for such purposes and initial staffing thereof;

(n) To enter into contractual arrangements or agreements with *the Federal Government or agencies thereof,

* “the” omitted in original.