WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1969

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FILED IN THE OFFICE JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, IN SECRETARY OF STATE

THIS DATE 3-17-69

ENROLLED Senate Bill No. 91

(By Mr. BARNETT)

[Passed March 7, 1969; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section twenty, article two-a, chapter seventeen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to relocation assistance to persons dislocated by highway construction.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section twenty, article two-a, chapter seventeen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2A. STATE ROAD COMMISSIONER.

- §17-2A-20. Relocation assistance to persons dislocated by highway construction.
 - The payment of relocation costs to persons dislocated
 by highway construction is hereby declared to be a cost

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3 of highway construction and may be paid from the state 4 road fund, subject to the provisions of this section. The state road commissioner shall make the payments author-5 ized by this section to reduce hardships to persons so dis-6 located. In addition, the commissioner shall render ad-7 visory assistance to persons affected and shall call upon 8 and coordinate the services of such other agencies of state 9 10 and local government as may be capable of rendering such 11 assistance to reduce hardships to persons affected and to reduce delays in highway construction. In rendering such 12 13 advisory assistance, the commissioner may accumulate and maintain lists of various kinds of properties available 14 15 to which persons affected may be relocated, and acquire and file such other information and take such other 16 17 action as may be necessary to render such advisory With respect to persons dislocated by 18 assistance. federal-aid highway projects, the commissioner shall 19 provide a relocation assistance program which will 20 comply with and implement the federal laws and regu-21 22 lations relating to relocation assistance to displaced 23 persons.

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24 Any individual, family, business concern (including the operation of a farm) or nonprofit organization to be dis-25 placed by a highway construction project shall be com-26 27 pensated consistent with the provisions and limitations 28 of this section for reasonable and necessary costs to be incurred in consequence of being so displaced. When a 29 family is displaced, no additional payments shall be made 30 to individuals who are members of such family; but, if 31 two or more displaced families occupy the same dwelling 32 33 or comprise a single household, each family within such 34 dwelling or household may receive relocation costs as provided in this section. Payments under this section are 35 36 subject to the following limitations and to any rules and regulations made by the commissioner as herein 37 authorized: 38

39 (1) With respect to state highway projects not on the40 federal-aid highway system.

41 (a) Payments shall not exceed two hundred dollars
42 in the case of a family or an individual; or three thous43 and dollars in the case of a business concern (including
44 the operation of a farm) or nonprofit organization.

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(b) In the case of a business concern (including the 45 46 operation of a farm) and in the case of a nonprofit organi-47 zation, the allowable expense for transportation under 48 this section shall not exceed the reasonable and necessary cost of moving fifty miles from the point from which 49 such business or organization is being displaced and no 50 expenses shall be allowed if a substantial portion of such 51 52 business or organization is to be relocated outside the 53 state.

54 (2) With respect to federal-aid highway projects, the 55 commissioner shall have authority to make such pay-56 ments for relocation costs, replacement housing costs, 57 and expenses incidental to the transfer of property 58 as are authorized by the federal laws and regula-59 tions relating to relocation payments to displaced 60 persons.

61 The commissioner shall establish by rules and regula-62 tions a procedure for the payment of relocation costs with-63 in the limits of and consistent with the policies of this 64 section. Such rules and regulations may authorize lump 65 sum payments to individuals or families, in lieu of their

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66 respective provable costs, based upon the size of the 67 dwelling being vacated or the number of persons being 68 affected or any other reasonable basis. The commissioner may authorize the obligations of or payment of relocation 69 70 costs in advance of expenditure for relocation by any per-71 son, firm or organization eligible to receive such payment where such advance obligation or payment would 72 73 speed the clearance of highway construction sites or re-74 duce hardships.

75 Nothing contained in this section or in the federal laws 76 and regulations relating to relocation assistance and payments to displaced persons shall be construed as creat-77 78 ing in any condemnation proceedings brought under the 79 power of eminent domain, any element of damages not 80 in existence on the date of enactment of this section or of the federal laws and regulations relating to relocation 81 82 assistance and payments to displaced persons.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Cl. laan

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect 90 days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

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PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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