WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1945

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 25

(Bothensbarger VM Davis).

PASSED March 2, 1945
In Effect well 1st 1945
Passage

ENROLLED House Bill No. 25

(By Mr. Hansbarger and Mr. Davis)

[Passed March 2, 1945; in effect June 1, 1945.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections five, twenty-seven and and twenty-eight, article two, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as last amended by chapter twenty-eight, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred thirtyfive, and by chapter ninety-one, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred thirty-seven, and by chapters thirty-four and thirty-five, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine, and by chapter ninety-three, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred fortyone, and by chapter seventy, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-three, relating to qualifications, appointment, initial grade and promotions of members of the department of public safety,

and to a death, disability and retirement fund for members and retired members of said department and dependent members of their families, and relating to retirement awards for retired or disabled members or former members of said department and dependent members of their families, and to a retirement board to control and disburse such fund.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections five, twenty-seven and twenty-eight, article two, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as last amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Article 2. Department of Public Safety.

Section 5. Qualifications, Appointment, Initial Grade

- 2 and Promotions of Members.—Preference in making ap-
- 3 pointments shall be given wherever possible to honorably
- 4 discharged soldiers, sailors and marines of the United
- 5 States army and navy. Each applicant for appointment
- 6 shall be a person not less than twenty-one nor more than
- 7 thirty years of age, of sound constitution, of good moral
- 8 character, and shall be required to pass such mental and

physical examinations as may be provided for by the rules and regulations promulgated by the retirement 10 11 board provided for under section twenty-seven of this act; provided, that a former member to whom, at or after 12 13 termination of his previous service, there were not refunded moneys contributed by him to the retirement 14 15 fund, may, at discretion of the superintendent, be again enlisted if upon subtracting the period of his former serv-16 ice from the age of such former member when he shall present himself to the superintendent to be again en-19 listed shall leave a remainder not exceeding thirty. The 20 superintendent is authorized to pay at public expense all 21 reasonable fees and costs incurred in the making of such 22 examinations of applicants. No person shall be barred 23 from becoming a member of the department of public 24 safety because of his religious or political convictions. 25 No person shall be appointed or enlisted to membership in said department at a grade or rank above the grade of 27 trooper and no trooper shall be promoted to any other 28 grade or rank until he shall have served at least two 29 years as a member of said department at the grade of 30 trooper.

Sec. 27. Death, Disability and Retirement Fund-Retirement Board.—There is hereby created a death, dis-2 ability and retirement fund for the benefit of members of the department of public safety, and any dependent of a retired or deceased member thereof. Into such fund 5 shall be paid such amounts as have heretofore been collected by the superintendent of the department of public safety on account of fees for arrest, court attendance and mileage, seizures, rewards, or from any other source 10 permitted by law. There shall be paid into such fund 11 such amounts arising in the future from the above named 12 or any other sources permitted by law, designated by the superintendent of the department of public safety, except that no part of any fine shall be paid thereinto. 15 There shall be deducted from the monthly payroll of 16 each member of the department of public safety and 17 paid into such fund six per cent of the amount of his 18 salary, and an additional twelve per cent of the monthly 19 salary of each member of said department shall be paid

by the State of West Virginia monthly into such fund out 21 of the biennial appropriation for said department. All 22 moneys payable into such fund shall be deposited in the 23 state treasury, and the treasurer and auditor shall keep a separate account thereof on their respective books. 25 The death, disability and retirement fund shall be 26 administered by a retirement board which shall consist 27 of the attorney general, state treasurer, the superin-28 tendent and two members in active service of the depart-29 ment of public safety; provided, that members of said 30 retirement board shall not be entitled to receive any 31 compensation in addition to the salary of their respective 32 offices for any service rendered as a member of said re-33 tirement board; provided further, the superintendent may pay out of funds appropriated for operation of said 34 35 department the reasonable expenses of members of said 36 board necessarily incurred in connection with dispatch 37 of any business properly before such board. The two members of said department shall be elected to mem-38 39 bership on the retirement board by vote of the members of the department of public safety; such election to be 41 held on the first Tuesday in June next following the passage of this act and on the first Tuesday in June each two years thereafter. The attorney general, state treasurer and the superintendent of the department of public safety shall promulgate any and all necessary rules and regulations for holding in a fair and impartial manner the election on the first Tuesday in June next following the passage of this act and thereafter the re-48 tirement board consisting of the attorney general, state 50 treasurer, superintendent and the two duly elected members of said department shall have authority to promulgate and, from time to time, revise rules and regulations for holding all subsequent elections in a fair and impartial 54 manner. All elections shall be held under the direction of the superintendent of said department in accordance with said rules and regulations. The members of the department chosen to serve on said retirement board 58 shall hold office for a period of two years commencing on the first day of July next following the date of such 59 election. When any member elected to the retirement 60 61 board shall die, resign from the board, resign or be dis62 charged from service in the department, make applica-63 tion for retirement, be retired, or become disabled, the office of such member of the retirement board shall be 64 65 declared vacant by the superintendent of said depart-66 ment, and said superintendent, to supply such vacancy, 67 shall appoint the member in active service of said depart-68 ment who as an unsuccessful candidate at the preceding 69 election of members to said retirement board received 70 the greatest number of votes. No member of the retirement board shall participate in any hearing at which his 71 72 own petition for retirement or the petition of any member 73 of said department who is related to him by blood or 74 marriage shall be presented for consideration. 75 At its first meeting following each election of members to the retirement board said board shall elect one of its 76 members to serve as chairman and a second member to 77 78 serve as secretary thereof. The retirement board shall 79 have the power to make rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions hereof, governing proce-80 dure and order and manner of business by and before 81 such board. The retirement board shall have the power to make awards and to revise and terminate awards previously made for such times and under such terms and
conditions as are hereinafter provided. The votes of a
majority of the five members of the board shall be necessary to decision of any matter by the board. Decisions
made by the board shall be supreme and final and there
shall be no appeal therefrom.

90 It shall be the duty of the retirement board on or before the first day of July of each year to cause all future 92 awards from such fund to be valued and, to the extent that moneys shall be available, reserves based on sound actuarial principles for payment thereof to be carried on the funds account as a liability against the reserve 95 fund. The board shall have authority to employ an actuary for such purpose. The board shall cause a system of 98 accounting to be installed and maintained to reflect currently and truly all transactions or developments per-100 taining to age of members and eligible dependents surviving deceased members, periods of service and aggre-101 gate earnings of all members eligible to participate in said 103 fund and any other matter relating to maintenance of

said fund or administration thereof, and each year to 105 cause to be made and submitted to each member of said 106 department a statement of the condition of said fund. 107 Costs and expenses incurred in making actuarial studies, 108 audits and installations and maintenance of such account-109 ing system shall be paid by the superintendent from funds 110 appropriated for operation of the department of public 111 safety. 112 All moneys paid into and accumulated in said death,

disability and retirement fund, except such amounts as shall be designated or set aside by the retirement board for payments of death, disability and retirement benefits and awards, shall be invested by the state board of public works in bonds of the government of the United States, the State of West Virginia, or any political subdivision thereof selected or approved by the retirement board.

Sec. 28. Retirement; Death, Disability and Retirement

- 2 Awards and Benefits.—(a) The retirement board shall re-
- 3 tire any member of the department of public safety when
- 4 such member

- 5 (1) Shall have attained the age of fifty-five years and
- 6 shall have completed twenty-five years of service as a
- 7 member of said department, or
- 8 (2) Has completed twenty-five years of service as a
- 9 member of said department and shall have attained the
- 10 age of fifty-five years, or
- 11 (3) Has attained the age of fifty-five years, and shall
- 12 have completed twenty-five years of service as a mem-
- 13 ber of said department.
- 14 (b) The retirement board shall retire any member of
- 15 said department of public safety when such member shall
- 16 have lodged with the secretary of the retirement board the
- 17 voluntary petition in writing of such member for re-
- 18 tirement, and
- 19 (1) Has or shall have completed not less than twenty-
- 20 five years of service as a member of said department,
- 21 or
- 22 (2) Has or shall have attained the age of fifty years and
- 23 has or shall have completed not less than twenty years
- 24 of service as a member of said department, or
- 25 (3) Being under the age of fifty years has or shall have

- 26 completed twenty years of service as a member of said
- 27 department.
- 28 (c) When the retirement board shall retire any mem-
- 29 ber under any of the foregoing provisions of this section,
- 30 said board shall, by order in writing, make an award
- 31 directing that such member shall be entitled to receive
- 32 annually and that there shall be paid to such member from
- 33 the death, disability and retirement fund in equal monthly
- 34 installments during the natural lifetime of such member
- 35 while in status of retirement one or the other of two
- 36 amounts, whichever shall be the greater, namely:
- 37 (1) Either an amount equal to three per cent of the
- 38 aggregate of salary paid to such member during the whole
- 39 period of service of such member as a member of the de-
- 40 partment of public safety; or
- 41 (2) When such period of service has or shall have been
- 42 more than
- 43 (a) Twenty years but less than twenty-one years, the
- 44 sum of nine hundred sixty dollars;
- 45 (b) Twenty-one years but less than twenty-two years,
- 46 the sum of one thousand eight dollars;

- 47 (c) Twenty-two years but less than twenty-three years,
- 48 the sum of one thousand fifty-six dollars;
- 49 (d) Twenty-three years but less than twenty-four years,
- 50 the sum of one thousand one hundred four dollars;
- 51 (e) Twenty-four years but less than twenty-five years,
- 52 the sum of one thousand one hundred fifty-two dollars;
- 53 (f) Twenty-five years, the sum of one thousand two
- 54 hundred dollars.
- 55 It is provided, however, that when a member has or
- 56 shall have served twenty years or longer but less than
- 57 twenty-five years as a member of said department and
- 58 shall be retired under any of the foregoing provisions
- 59 before he shall have attained the age of fifty years, pay-
- 60 ment of monthly installments of the amount of retire-
- 61 ment award to such member shall commence on the date
- 62 such member shall attain the age of fifty years.
- 63 (d) Any member of the department of public safety
- 64 who has been or shall be commissioned, enlisted or in-
- 65 ducted into the armed forces of the United States or, being
- 66 a member of the reserve officers' corps, has been or shall
- 67 be called to active duty in said armed forces since the

68 first day of September, one thousand nine hundred forty, 69 and prior to the close of hostilities in the wars now being 70 waged by the United States, shall be entitled to and receive credit on the minimum period of service required 71 72 by law for retirement on retirement pay from the service of the department of public safety for a period equal to 73 the full time he shall, pursuant to such commission, en-74 listment, induction or call, have served with said armed 75 76 forces; provided, such member shall (1) be honorably discharged from said armed forces, and (2) within ninety 77 days after honorable discharge from said armed forces 78 present himself to the superintendent and offer to resume 79 service as an active member of the department; provided 81 further, that no such member shall be entitled to any credit, privilege or benefit under the provisions of this 82 paragraph who shall by any voluntary act on his part, 83 whether by reenlistment, waiver of discharge, acceptance 84 85 of commission or otherwise, extend or participate in extension of the period of service of such member with such 86 armed forces beyond the period of service therewith for 87 which such member was originally commissioned, en-

89 listed, inducted or called; provided also, that the amount 90 of retirement pay to which any such member shall be 91 entitled shall be calculated and determined as if such 92 member had continued in the active service of the depart-93 ment at the rank or grade to him appertaining at the time of such commission, induction, enlistment or call, 94 95 during a period coextensive with the time such member 96 shall have served with said armed forces pursuant to 97 such commission, induction, enlistment or call. superintendent of said department is authorized to trans-98 99 fer and pay over each month into said death, disability 100 and retirement fund from moneys that shall be appropriated for said department a sum equal to eighteen per 102 cent of the aggregate of salary which all said members would have been entitled to receive had they continued 103 in the active service of said department during a period 105 coextensive with the time such members shall have served 106 with said armed forces pursuant to said commission, induction, enlistment or call. If any member on leave of 107 absence and while serving with the armed forces of the 108 United States pursuant to commission, enlistment, induc-109

tion or call as aforesaid shall die as a result of illness or injury from any cause while a member of such armed 111 112 forces of the United States, all moneys which shall have been deducted from his salary as a member of the de-113 114 partment and deposited in the death, disability and retirement fund created by section twenty-seven of this article shall, if such member was not at the time of his 116 117 death eligible for retirement benefits under any of the pro-118 visions of this act, be withdrawn from said fund and paid 119 over to the widow of such member, if any, and if none, to 120 the children of such member, and if there be no widow or 121 children, to the dependent parent or parents, and if there be widow or children or dependent parents, then the 122 123 same shall remain in the fund. 124 (e) Any member of said department who has been or

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shall become physically or mentally permanently disabled by injury, illness or disease resulting from any occupational risk or hazard inherent in or peculiar to the services required of members of said department and incurred pursuant to or while such member was or shall be engaged in the performance of his duties as a member of said depart-

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ment shall, if, in the opinion of the retirement board, he be by reason of such cause unable to perform adequately the 132 duties required of him as a member of said epartment, be 133 134 retired from active service by the retirement board and 135 thereafter such member shall be entitled to receive annually and there shall be paid to such member from the death, 136 137 disability and retirement fund in equal monthly installments during the natural lifetime of such member or until 138 139 such disability shall sooner terminate, an amount equal to four per cent of the total salary which would have been 141 earned by him during twenty-five years of service in said 142 department based on his average earnings while employed as a member of said department. If such disability shall be 143 total and permanent to the extent that such member is or 144 shall be incapacitated ever to engage in any gainful employment, such member shall be entitled to receive annu-146 147 ally and there shall be paid to such member from the death, disability and retirement fund in equal monthly install-148 149 ments during the natural lifetime of such member or until such disability shall sooner terminate, an amount equal to 150

five per cent of the total salary which would have been earned by him during twenty-five years of service in said department based on his average earnings while employed as a member of said department.

155 The superintendent is authorized to expend moneys from funds appropriated for the department of public safety in 157 payment of medical, surgical, laboratory, x-ray, hospital, ambulance and dental expenses and fees, and reasonable 158 costs and expenses incurred in purchase of artificial limbs 159 and other approved appliances which may be reasonably 160 necessary for any member of said department who has or 161 162 shall become temporarily, permanently or totally disabled 163 by injury, illness or disease resulting from any occupational 164 risk or hazard inherent in or peculiar to the service required of members of said department and incurred pursuant to 165 or while such member was or shall be engaged in the per-166 167 formance of his duties as a member of said department. 168 Whenever the superintendent shall determine that any 169 disabled member is ineligible to receive any of the aforesaid benefits at public expense the superintendent shall, 170

171 at the request of such disabled member, refer such matter

172 to the retirement board for hearing and final decision.

(f) If any member while in active service of said depart-173 174 ment has or shall become permanently disabled from any 175 cause other than those set forth in the next preceding sec-176 tion not due to vicious habits, intemperance or wilful mis-177 conduct on his part, such member shall, if he be not eligible 178 for retirement under the other provisions of this article, be 179 retired by the retirement board and shall be entitled to re-180 ceive annually and there shall be paid to such member from the death, disability and retirement fund in equal monthly 181 182 installments during a period equal to one-half the time such member has served as a member of said department, a sum 183 184 equal to three per cent of the total salary which would have been earned by him during twenty-five years of 185 186 service in said department based on his average earnings 187 while employed as a member of said department.

188 (g) The superintendent may require any member who
189 has been or who shall be retired with compensation on

190 account of disability to submit to a physical and/or men-191 tal examination by a physician or physicians selected or 192 approved by the retirement board and cause all costs in-193 cident to such examination including hospital, laboratory, x-ray, medical and physician fees to be paid out of funds 194 195 appropriated to defray the current expense of said department, and a report of the findings of such physician or 196 physicians shall be submitted in writing to the retire-197 ment board for its consideration. If from such report 198 199 or from such report and hearing thereon the retirement 200 board shall be of opinion and find that such disabled 201 member shall have recovered from such disability to the 202 extent that he is able to perform adequately the duties of a member of said department, the superintendent shall 203 204 order such member to reassume active duty as a member of said department and thereupon all payments from the 205 206 death, disability and retirement fund shall be terminated. 207

208 (h) A member who has been or shall be retired shall
209 not while in retirement status exercise any of the powers
210 conferred upon active members by section eleven of this

article: but shall be entitled to receive free of cost to 212 such member and retain as his separate property one complete standard uniform prescribed by section nine of 214 this article, provided, that such uniform may be worn 215 by a member in retirement status only on such occasions 216 as shall be prescribed by the superintendent. The super-217 intendent is authorized to maintain at public expense for 218 the benefit of all members in retirement status that group 219 life insurance mentioned in section nine of this article. 220 The superintendent, when he shall be of opinion that the 221 public safety shall require, may recall to active duty 222 during such period as the superintendent shall determine 223 any member who shall be retired under the provisions of 224 subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this section, provided the 225 consent of such member to reassume duties of active 226 membership shall first be had and obtained. When any 227 member in retirement shall reassume status of active 228 membership such member, during the period he shall 229 remain in active status, shall not be entitled to receive 230 retirement pay or benefits but in lieu thereof shall be 231 entitled to receive that rate of salary and allowance

232 pertinent to the rank or grade held by such member 233 when retired. When such member shall be released 234 from active duty he shall reassume the status of retire-235 ment and shall thereupon be entitled to receive appropriate benefits as provided by this act; provided, the 236 237 amount of such benefits shall in no event be less than the amount determined by the order of the retirement board 238 239 previously made in his behalf.

240 (i) The widow or the children under the age of eighteen 241 years or dependent parent or parents of any member 242 who has lost or shall lose his life by reason of injury. 243 illness or disease resulting from any occupational risk or 244 hazard inherent in or peculiar to the service required of members while such member was or shall be engaged in 246 the performance of his duties as a member of said de-247 partment, or if said member shall die from such causes 248 after being retired on disability, shall be entitled to re-249 ceive and shall be paid from the death, disability and 250 retirement fund benefits as follows: To the widow annu-251 ally, in equal monthly installments during her lifetime 252 or until her remarriage, an amount equal to two per cent 253 of the total salary which would have been earned by said deceased member during twenty-five years of service in 254 said department based on his average earnings while 255 employed as a member of said department. In addition 256 257 thereto such widow shall be entitled to receive and there 258 shall be paid to her five dollars monthly for each child 259 until such child shall attain the age of eighteen years. 260 If such widow shall die or remarry or if there be no 261 widow there shall be paid monthly to such child or chil-262 dren from said death, disability and retirement fund the 263 sum of fifteen dollars each until such child or children 264 shall respectively attain the age of eighteen years. If 265 there be no widow and no child or children, there shall be paid annually in equal monthly installments from said 266 267 death, disability and retirement fund to the dependent parents of said deceased member during their joint life-268 times a sum equal to the amount which a widow, without 269 270 children, would have received, provided, that when there shall be but one dependent parent surviving, such parent 271 shall be entitled to receive during his or her lifetime one-272

half the amount which both parents, if living, would have been entitled to receive.

(j) In any case where a member while in active service 275 276 of said department, before becoming eligible for retirement under the provisions of subsections (a), (b) or (c) 277 of this section, has died or shall die from any other cause 278 279 not due to vicious habits, intemperance or wilful mis-280 conduct on his part, there shall be paid annually in 281 equal monthly installments from said death, disability 282 and retirement fund to the widow of such member during 283 a period equal to one-half the time such member served 284 as a member of said department, or until the time during 285 such period said widow shall remarry, a sum equal to 286 one and one-half per cent of the total salary which 287 would have been earned by him during twenty-five years 288 of service in said department based on his average earn-289 ings while employed as a member of said department. If there be no widow or during the period aforesaid such 290 widow shall remarry there shall be paid from said fund 291 to each child of said deceased member the sum of fifteen 292 293 dollars monthly until such child or children respectively

shall attain the age of eighteen years. If there be no 294 295 widow and no child or children there shall be paid annu-296 ally in equal monthly installments from said fund to the 297 dependent parents of said deceased member during their 298 joint lifetimes a sum equal to the amount which a widow 299 would have been entitled to receive, provided, when there 300 shall be but one dependent parent surviving then such 301 dependent parent shall be entitled to receive during his 302 or her lifetime one-half the amount which both parents, 303 if living, would have been entitled to receive.

304 (k) When a member of said department shall die after 305 having been retired by the retirement board under the provisions of subsections (a), (b) or (c) of this section, 306 307 there shall be paid annually in equal monthly install-308 ments from said fund to the widow of said member, 309 during her lifetime or until her remarriage, an amount 310 equal to one-half the retirement benefits said deceased 311 member was receiving or was entitled to recive at the time of his death; and in addition thereto said widow 312 shall be entitled to and there shall be paid to her from 313 said fund the sum of five dollars monthly for each child 314

under the age of eighteen years until such child or chil-315 316 dren respectively shall attain the age of eighteen years; provided, that no widow of any member who shall die 317 after having been retired by the retirement board shall 319 be entitled to receive any benefits under the terms of 320 this paragraph unless such widow shall have been married 321 to such member during at least one full year prior to the 322 date such member shall have been retired by the retire-323 ment board and, provided further, that a child born to 324 said dependent wife after such member was placed on re-325 tirement shall not be entitled to any benefits nor shall 326 such dependent wife be entitled to receive benefits for 327 such child. If such widow shall not be entitled to benefits 328 or shall die or remarry, or if there be no widow there 329 shall be paid monthly from said fund to each child under the age of eighteen years of said deceased member the 330 331 sum of fifteen dollars until such child or children re-332 spectively attain the age of eighteen years. If there be 333 no widow or no widow eligible to receive benefits and no child or children there shall be paid annually in equal 334monthly installments from said fund to the dependent par-335

ents of said deceased member during their joint lifetimes a sum equal to the amount which a widow without children would have been entitled to receive; provided, that when there shall be but one dependent parent surviving such parent shall be entitled to receive during his or her lifetime one-half the amount which both parents, if living, would have been entitled to receive.

- 343 (1) When any widow of a member shall die or remarry 344 while receiving or being entitled to receive any benefits 345 under this act, such widow shall not from the date of such 346 remarriage, nor shall her estate from the date of her 347 death, be entitled to receive any benefits hereunder what-348 soever; provided, that in any case where under the 349 terms of this act benefits are provided for a child or 350 children surviving the death or remarriage of such widow, 351 payment of such benefits to such child or children shall 352 be calculated for payment from the date such widow shall 353 die or remarry.
- 354 (m) Any member who shall be discharged by order of 355 the superintendent after such member has or shall have 356 served two full years or more as a member of said depart-

ment shall, at request of such member, be entitled to 357 receive from said fund a sum equal to the aggregate of 358 359 the principal amount of moneys deducted from his salary and paid into said death, disability and retirement 360 361 fund as provided and required by section twenty-seven of this article; provided, that the superintendent shall 362 363 forthwith refund to any member that has or shall have 364 served more than two but less than twenty years as a 365 member of said department and has resigned or shall resign or that has been or shall be discharged from the 366 367 service for cause in accordance with recommendation of 368 a majority of a board of five officers of the department, 369 a sum equal to the aggregate of the principal amount of all moneys deducted from the salary of such member 370 371 and paid into said fund as aforesaid; provided further, if 372 any such refund shall be made to any member such member shall not be entitled to any benefits provided by this 373 act, and should any such member thereafter be again en-374 listed as a member of said department no credit on any 375 376 period of service required of a member as a condition of 377 retirement shall be allowed to such member on account of

357 ment shall, at request of such member, be entitled to receive from said fund a sum equal to the aggregate of 358 the principal amount of moneys deducted from his 359salary and paid into said death, disability and retirement 360 361 fund as provided and required by section twenty-seven of this article; provided, that the superintendent shall 362 forthwith refund to any member that has or shall have 363 served more than two but less than twenty years as a 364 365 member of said department and has resigned or shall resign or that has been or shall be discharged from the 366 service for cause in accordance with recommendation of 367 a majority of a board of five officers of the department, 368 369 a sum equal to the aggregate of the principal amount of 370 all moneys deducted from the salary of such member and paid into said fund as aforesaid; provided further, if 371 372 any such refund shall be made to any member such mem-373 ber shall not be entitled to any benefits provided by this act, and should any such member thereafter be again enlisted as a member of said department no credit on any 375 period of service required of a member as a condition of 376 retirement shall be allowed to such member on account of such former service; provided also, that when any member
has or shall have served as a member of said department
during twenty years or longer and shall, in the opinion of
the superintendent, become unfit for any reason for further active service such member shall, in lieu of being
discharged, be retired by the retirement board under
the provision or provisions of this act most favorable to
such member.

386 (n) If any member while in active status shall die 387 after having served two full years or longer as a member 388 of said department and the retirement board shall be of 389 opinion after hearing thereon that the dependent or de-390 pendents of said member are ineligible under the provi-391 sions of this article to receive any of the benefits pro-392 vided herein, the superintendent shall refund to the 393 widow, if surviving, but if not surviving, to the children of 394 such member, and if there be no widow or children, to the dependent/parents, a sum equal to the aggregate of the 395 396 principal amount of all moneys deducted from the salary 397 of such member and paid into said fund as aforesaid, and 398 if there be no widow or children or dependent parent or

ox gra by a c 399 parents, then the same shall remain in the fund. When400 ever any such refund shall be made the widow or other
401 dependents of such deceased member shall not be entitled
402 to any other rights or benefits on account of said fund
403 under the provisions of this act.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled. Chairman Senate Committee Chairman House Committee
Originated in the House Takes effect with 14 1945 passage.
Clerk of the Senate
Clerk of the House of Delegates President of the Senate
Speaker House of Delegates
The within a this the day of Nucl., 1945.
Governor. Governor.
of West Virginia MAR 8 1945 Was. S. O'BRIEN, Socrators of State
Secretary of State