WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1957

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 339

(By Mr. Chief Mr. Hallman)

PASSED March 4, 1957

In Effect 30 days from Passage
ENROLLED

House Bill No. 339
(By Miss Hallanan and Mr. Blue)

[Passed March 4, 1957; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections one, two, three, four, five and six, article seventeen, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the West Virginia schools for the deaf and the blind.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections one, two, three, four, five and six, article seventeen, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 1. Continuation; Management.—The West Virginia schools for deaf pupils and blind pupils heretofore established and located at Romney, in Hampshire county, shall be continued and shall be known as the “West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.” The schools
shall be maintained for the care and education of the deaf youth and blind youth of the state. The educational or business affairs of the schools shall be under the control, supervision and management of the state board of education, as provided in section thirteen, article two of this chapter.

Sec. 2. Admission and Record of Pupils.—All deaf youth and blind youth resident in the state, between the ages of six and twenty, inclusive, providing they are educable, physically capable and free from contagious disease, shall be enrolled in the school on application to the superintendent, until the school is filled. Applicants shall be admitted in the order of their application. It shall be the duty of the superintendent to keep a careful record of the names of all applicants, with the dates of their admission and discharge, their ages, post office addresses, the names of their parents or guardians, and the degree, cause and circumstances of their deafness or blindness.

Sec. 3. Tuition, Board and Clothing of Pupils.—All such deaf pupils and blind pupils shall be admitted to the schools without charge for board and tuition. When not
otherwise provided with clothing they shall be furnished therewith by the institution while they are pupils therein, and the superintendent shall make out an account therefor in each case against the county where the pupil receiving the clothing resided at the time the clothing was furnished, in an amount not exceeding seventy-five dollars per annum for any one pupil, which account shall be sworn to by the superintendent and countersigned by the business manager and shall be transmitted by the superintendent to the auditor of the state, who shall forward a copy thereof to the clerk of the county court of such county. The county court shall, at its next levy term, provide for the payment of the same and cause the amount to be paid directly to the West Virginia schools for the deaf and the blind to be deposited into the indigent clothing fund. All money so received shall be disbursed upon requisitions for the payment of accounts incurred thereunder. If any such accounts are not paid within a reasonable time after such levy term, it shall be the duty of the auditor to collect the same.

Sec. 4. Period of Attendance; Special Admissions.—The
pupils of said schools may continue therein until completion of the prescribed course of study, or a lesser period of time which the condition and progress of the pupil may justify, as determined by the state board of education and the superintendent. After all applicants between the prescribed ages of six and twenty years, inclusive, have been enrolled, if there are additional accommodations, the superintendent may enroll other deaf pupils and blind pupils who may be of suitable age to receive any advantage from the institution, and upon such terms as the state board of education may prescribe; but it shall be distinctly understood that such persons shall withdraw from the institution in the order of their admission to make room for new applicants between the ages prescribed.

Sec. 5. Course of Instruction.—The course of instruction in the institution shall be prescribed by the state board of education with the advice of the superintendent, and shall be as extensive in the intellectual, musical, vocational, and prevocational departments as the capacities and interests of the pupils may require.

Sec. 6. Registration of Deaf and Blind by Assessors.—
In addition to their other duties the county assessors of the state are hereby required to register, in a book to be furnished them by the state auditor for the purpose, the names of all deaf persons and blind persons under twenty-one years of age in their respective counties, with the degree and cause of deafness and blindness in each case, as far as can be ascertained from the heads of the families or from other persons whom the county assessors may conveniently consult, their ages, the names of their parents or guardians, their post office addresses, and such other facts as may be useful in making the institution efficient in the education of the deaf and of the blind. They shall complete the registration on or before June one of each year and forward their report to the auditor, a copy to the state superintendent of schools and to the superintendent of the West Virginia schools for the deaf and the blind on or before July one of each year. The superintendent shall immediately communicate with the parents or guardians of all the deaf persons and the blind persons mentioned in the assessors report, with a view of their admission as pupils into said school.
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 of Delegates

Takes effect 90 days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker, House of Delegates

The within approved this the 14th day of March, 1957.

Governor

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of West Virginia, MAR 14 1957
D. PITT O'BRIEN
SECRETARY OF STATE