

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 1959

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**ENROLLED**

SENATE BILL NO. 156

(By Mr. Bean, Mr. President)

PASSED Feb 27 ..... 1959

In Effect July 1 1959 ..... Passage



Filed in Office of the Secretary of State  
of West Virginia MAR 6 1959

**JOE F. BURDETT**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

**ENROLLED**

**Senate Bill No. 156**

(By MR. BEAN, MR. PRESIDENT)

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[Passed February 27, 1959; in effect July 1, 1959.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact section two, article eight, chapter twenty-seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to payment by counties toward the maintenance of patients in mental institutions.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

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

**Article 8. Maintenance of Mentally Ill Patients.**

Section 2. *When and How Counties to Pay.*—If the state  
2 mental institution is unable to collect a minimum of one

3 hundred fifty dollars per annum toward the mainte-  
4 nance of a patient, whether on a voluntary or involuntary  
5 status, the county of which the patient is a resident shall  
6 annually pay into the state treasury for credit to the ap-  
7 propriate institution the difference between the amount,  
8 if any, collected by the institution and the sum of one  
9 hundred fifty dollars.

10 At every levy term of each county court it shall estimate  
11 for and levy a sufficient amount to meet all such expenses.  
12 The superintendent of such institution, on or before the  
13 tenth day of January of each year, shall certify to the  
14 auditor a list of all the patients in the institution during  
15 the whole or any part of the preceding year for which the  
16 counties are to pay, showing on such list under the name  
17 of the county, the number from each county and length  
18 of time they were in the institution during the year, and  
19 showing the amount due from each county for each pa-  
20 tient, and the total amount due from each county for the  
21 year. As soon as such list is received by the auditor he  
22 shall charge to each county the amount appearing to be  
23 due from the certificates of the superintendents. Within

24 ten days after the receipt of such certificates the auditor  
25 shall make out a copy thereof for each county and certify  
26 the same to the county court thereof, which list shall show  
27 the name of each patient in such hospital from the county  
28 during the year, the length of time he was in such institu-  
29 tion during the year, the amount charged for each patient,  
30 and the total amount charged on account of all such pa-  
31 tients from the county; and such total amount shall consti-  
32 tute a debt against the county due the state. Whenever  
33 there is in the state treasury a sum of money due any  
34 county from any source, the same shall be at once applied  
35 on the debt aforesaid against the county, and the fact of  
36 such application of such fund shall be reported by the  
37 auditor to the county court of the county, which report  
38 shall be a receipt for the amount therein named.

39 The provisions of this section shall apply only to the  
40 state mental hospitals proper, and not to the clinics at-  
41 tached thereto.

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

*W. J. Gager*  
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Chairman Senate Committee

*Andrew Andrews*  
-----  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

Takes effect *July 1 1959* ----- passage.

*J. Samuel Thayer*  
-----  
Clerk of the Senate

*C. A. Blankenship*  
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Clerk of the House of Delegates

*Paul H. Bean*  
-----  
President of the Senate

*W. P. Pawley*  
-----  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *approved* ----- this the *5th*  
day of *March* -----, 1959.

*Leif Stenderwood*  
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Governor