WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1973

ENROLLED
SENATE BILL NO. 121

(By Mr. Poffenbarger)

PASSED MARCH 9, 1973

In Effect ______ FROM ______ Passage

FILED IN THE OFFICE
EDGAR F. HEISKELL III
SECRETARY OF STATE
THIS DATE 3-19-73
ENROLLED
Senate Bill No. 121
(By Mr. Poffenbarger)

[Passed March 9, 1973; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section sixteen, article two, chapter forty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to child welfare; authorizing and empowering the state department of welfare to provide care, support and protective services for certain children; authorizing and empowering such department to accept children for care and to accept custody thereof; authorizing and empowering such state department or any county office of such department to accept temporary custody of children for care from any police officer in an emergency situation for a limited period of time, pending court action; and providing for care in special boarding homes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 2. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND CARE OF CHILDREN.


1 The state department of welfare is hereby authorized and empowered to provide care, support and protective services for children who are handicapped by dependency, neglect, illegitimate birth, mental or physical disability, or who for other reasons are in need of public service. Such department is also hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion to
accept children for care from their parent or parents, guardian or relatives and to accept the custody of children committed to its care by courts exercising juvenile jurisdiction. The state department of welfare or any county office of such department is also hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion to accept temporary custody of children for care from any police officer in an emergency situation until a proper order of a court exercising juvenile jurisdiction can be entered awarding temporary custody to such department, but such temporary custody prior to the entry of such court order shall not be for longer than fifteen days.

The state department of welfare shall provide care in special boarding homes for children needing detention pending disposition by a court having juvenile jurisdiction or temporary care following such court action.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within .................................................. this the 16th day of ................................................., 1973.

Governor
PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

Date 3/15/73
Time 10:30 a.m.