

[No. 193, S.]

[Published April 1, 1881.]

CHAPTER 229.

AN ACT to amend section five hundred and ninety of the revised statutes, in relation to the admission of patients to the hospitals for the insane.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows :

When patient is improperly charged to county.

SECTION 1. Whenever any inmate, in either state hospital for the insane, shall be improperly charged to the state, or to any county, the attorney general, on behalf of the state and the district attorney of such county, on its behalf, may make written application to the board of trustees of state hospitals for the insane, for relief from charge. If known to the applicant, such application shall state the name of the county to which such inmate is chargeable, or if it be claimed that the state is chargeable therewith, it shall be so stated. The said board shall give to the attorney general, or to the district attorney of the county so named, as may be proper, reasonable notice of such application, and of the time and place when it will be heard. The state or such county may appear, and be heard in opposition to such application. Such application may be supported by affidavits and other proper evidence. If upon the hearing upon such application, the said board shall be satisfied that the relief asked for, should be granted, it shall, by its order in writing, grant the same, and therein name the county chargeable with such inmate, if it shall find any county so chargeable. If it shall find the state chargeable it shall so set forth. From and after the making of such order such inmate shall be charged in accordance therewith: provided, that the county named in such order, if other than the county named in such application, may in like manner apply to said board for relief as to such order and the burden thereby imposed. And in any such case the matter shall be heard and disposed of in the manner hereinbefore provided.

In case of error in accounts between hospital and county.

SECTION 2. In any case in which any error has been or shall be committed in the accounts between either state hospital for the insane, and any county, for the support of any inmate of such hospital, or in the amount certified by the secretary of state, to any county, as the amount due and to be assessed upon such county, on account of such support, and such error shall be made to appear from the certificate of the board of trustees of state hospitals for the insane, or from the certi-

ificate from the secretary of either of said hospitals, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state to correct such error, by charging to the state or to the proper county, the support of such inmate properly chargeable to it, or to such county, and by crediting the state or such county with such support when the same has been improperly charged to it, or to such county, or improperly paid. The county so credited shall have the benefit of such credit, when such secretary of state shall certify to it the sum to be raised for its then next state tax; and the county so charged shall have the amount thereof certified to it, as an item of its state tax, when such secretary of state shall certify to it the sum to be raised for its then next state tax.

SECTION 3. Whenever it shall be found that any insane inmate of either of said hospitals is not a resident of this state, and that neither the state nor any county therein is properly chargeable for the support of such inmate, it shall be the duty of the state board of charities and reform to make inquiry as to, and, if possible, ascertain the residence of such inmate, and to communicate with the proper officers of the state, county, dominion or other political division, of which such person may be found to be a resident or in which he or she may be entitled to support, with respect to his or her return into the same; and if practicable to cause such inmate to be removed from such hospital and transported to and to be delivered into the custody of the proper officer or officers of such state, county, dominion or other political division: provided, that the cost of the same shall not in any case exceed one hundred dollars, to be provided for, audited and paid from the funds of the hospital from which such inmate shall be removed, in the same manner that other bills are provided for, audited and paid.

When inmate of hospital is not resident of state.

SECTION 4. All acts and parts of acts conflicting with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

Repealed.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 29, 1881.