

44:7-38

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August 14, 1969

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Legislative Notes on H.R. 44:7-33  
(Residence of mental patient)  
(1969 amendment)

L. 1969, Chapter 110 - A535  
Introduced Feb. 11, 1969 by Aoy and others.  
Statement was made. (Copy enclosed)  
*Not amended during passage.*

3 checked the following without success:

V.I. - D.D. - Mental Hygiene - 1969; D.D. - Institutions  
and agencies - 1969.

JT /eb

# ASSEMBLY, No. 535

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 11, 1969

By Assemblymen APY, COLEMAN, AZZOLINA, AIKINS, SELECKY, TODD, Assemblywoman MARGETTS, Assemblymen COBB, VREELAND and SCHLUTER

Referred to Committee on Institutions and Welfare

AN ACT to amend "An act concerning assistance for needy persons, 18 years of age and older, who are permanently and totally disabled, and supplementing chapter 7 of Title 44 of the Revised Statutes," approved May 31, 1951 (P. L. 1951, c. 139).

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 1 of P. L. 1951, c. 139 (C. 44:7-38) is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 1. Subject to the provisions of this act and the provisions of  
4 chapter 7 of Title 44 of the Revised Statutes as hereinafter  
5 specified, any needy person residing in New Jersey who has  
6 attained the age of 18 but is less than 65 years of age, who is per-  
7 manently and totally disabled by reason of any physical or mental  
8 defect, disease, or impairment other than blindness, shall be en-  
9 titled to receive assistance from the county welfare board of the  
10 county in which he resides.

11 *The residence of any patient discharged from a mental hospital*  
12 *directly to a sheltered boarding facility shall be the county wherein*  
13 *such person resided immediately preceding his last admission to*  
14 *said mental hospital.*

1 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1969.

### STATEMENT

Almost every State mental institution has in it many out-of-county patients. While institutionalized, the county of origin shares the cost of hospitalization equally with the State. But when such a patient is discharged to a sheltered boarding facility in the county in which the institution is located, 25% of the cost of his care must be borne by the county where the patient then takes up residence.

Thus, the counties with State mental institutions, and consequently with the satellite sheltered boarding facilities, must after discharge contribute to the support of former patients from other counties. This is an unfair burden on those counties who happen to have within them the only facilities available to care for patients after discharge.

This bill would require the county of original residence to contribute toward the support of its residents after discharge to a sheltered boarding facility in another county, just as they must now share the cost of that patient's care in the mental institution. The end result would be a more equitable distribution among the counties of the cost of care in sheltered boarding homes, but would not in any way effect the amount of the State's contributory obligation.

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