

No. 371, A.]

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CHAPTER 232.

AN ACT to amend 48.09 (1), 48.15, 48.17 (1) and (2), 48.18, 58.07 (4) of the statutes, relating to clarification of statutes on commitment of children.

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

SECTION 1. 48.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.09 (1) Whenever in the opinion of the state department of public welfare it * * * *is* for the best interest of a child committed to * * * *it* that such child should become an inmate of the Wisconsin child center, said department may make the necessary order transferring such child to the Wisconsin child center.

SECTION 2. 48.15 of the statutes is amended to read:

48.15 Any child, under the age of 18, convicted of a criminal offense may, in the discretion of the judge or magistrate before whom the case is tried be committed to * * * *the state department of public welfare* * * * *until* the age of 21 years or until paroled in accordance with section 48.16 (2) (b).

SECTION 3. 48.17 (1) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:

48.17 (1) The state department of public welfare shall * * * *place* the children * * * *in the schools* at such employments and * * * *instruct them* in such branches of useful knowledge as * * * *are* suited to their years and capacities. The superintendent of each * * * school shall procure the return of any person escaping therefrom; and any justice of the peace, marshal or constable, upon information of such escape, shall return any such fugitive as above mentioned.

(2) When any sheriff * * * or other person appointed by the department * * * *takes a child* to any * * * *reception center established by the department* he * * * *is* entitled to receive therefor from the proper county his actual and necessary expenses and the further sum of \$5, and no more, for each day while necessarily so engaged * * *.

SECTION 4. 48.18 of the statutes is amended to read:

48.18 For each child committed to *the state department of public welfare and placed* in either * * * *school or in* the Wisconsin child center *or committed to either school or to the center* after June, * * * 1945, during its residence in such institution or a boarding home, whether under permanent or temporary commitment, the county of legal settlement shall be chargeable with the sum of \$5 per week. Such charges will be adjusted in accordance with the provisions of section 46.106. All children under commitment * * * *before* June * * * 30, * * * 1945, and remaining under commitment to * * * *either school* after such date shall continue to be a charge of the county of commitment except that the rate to such county shall be \$5 per week for each child. *This same rate shall apply to the Wisconsin child center.* The term "boarding home" as used in this section means those homes in which a board payment is made by *the department or any such institution.* It does not mean homes in which children are placed on a basis involving no boarding costs.

SECTION 5. 58.07 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

58.07 (4) Such superintendent or agent shall not be entitled to any compensation for his services, except as provided in subsection (5); but shall be paid witness fees and mileage and expenses for * * * *taking* any child committed to the * * * *state department of public welfare* at the rate and in the manner other officers are paid in like service.

Approved June 8, 1949.