

No. 45, A.]

[Published August 8, 1951.

**CHAPTER 688.**

AN ACT to amend 51.08 (1), to repeal and recreate 51.24 (2) and to create 51.08 (2) of the statutes, relating to maintenance and treatment of patients at county hospitals.

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

SECTION 1. 51.08 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

51.08 (1) The expense of maintenance, care and treatment of each patient in any state hospital shall be at the rate of \$5 per week, and in any county hospital or facility for the mentally infirm at the rate of \* \* \* \$10 per week for the year beginning July 1,

1950 and annually thereafter equal in amount to the actual average per capita cost of maintenance, care and treatment of such patients therein as determined from annual individual hospital reports filed with the state department of public welfare under the mandatory uniform cost record-keeping requirement of section 46.18 (8), (9) and (10). For each such patient in any county hospital maintained at public charge elsewhere than in the county of his legal settlement the whole rate shall be charged to the state and one-half charged over by the state against the county of his legal settlement. For other patients maintained in any county hospital at public charge one-half of said rate shall be charged to the state and one-half to the county of their legal settlement. When any patient is temporarily transferred from any state or county hospital to a hospital for surgical and medical care or both, the state charges or aid provided for in this subsection shall continue during the period of such transfer. Such charge shall be adjusted as provided in section 46.106, but nothing herein shall prevent the collection of the actual per capita cost of maintenance or a part thereof by the department or by a county having a population of 500,000. \* \* \*

SECTION 2. 51.08 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

51.08 (2) Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1952, the records and accounts of each county hospital or facility for the mentally infirm shall be audited annually. Such audits shall be made by the department of state audit as provided in section 15.22 (12) (d) and (e) as soon as practicable following the close of the institution's fiscal year. In addition to other findings, such audits shall ascertain compliance with the mandatory uniform cost record-keeping requirements of section 46.18 (8), (9) and (10) and verify the actual per capita cost of maintenance, care and treatment of patients. Any resulting adjustments to settlements already made under section 46.106 shall be carried into the next such settlement.

SECTION 3. 51.24 (2) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

51.24 (2) The state shall compensate the county for the care and maintenance of patients in the hospital mentioned in subsection (1) who are maintained at public expense, at the rate of \$5 per week for each chronic case for the year beginning July 1, 1950, and annually thereafter at a rate determined in accordance with the provisions of section 51.08 (1). For patients who are maintained at public expense the state shall compensate the county for each acute case at the rate of \$5 per week and, commencing July 1, 1951, at a rate equal in amount to the full average per capita cost of care and maintenance of patients in Mendota state hospital and Winnebago state hospital minus the charge made by the state to counties pursuant to the provisions of section 51.08. The average of the full per capita cost of the Mendota state hospital and Winnebago state hospital for the fiscal year ending June 30 shall be the basis for computation of the compensation for the ensuing calendar year. When a patient is temporarily transferred from the hospital for mental diseases to the county hospital for physical or acute mental illness or surgical or medical care or all of them, such state compensation shall be paid for the period of such transfer.

Approved July 20, 1951.

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