

No. 542, A.]

[Published May 25, 1917.]

**CHAPTER 261**

AN ACT to create subdivision (21) of section 670 of the statutes, authorizing county boards in counties maintaining a house of correction and having a population of two hundred fifty thousand or more to provide for pecuniary assistance to prisoners and their families.

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. A new subdivision is added to section 670 of the statutes to read: (Section 670) (21) a. In counties maintaining a house of correction and having a population of two hundred fifty thousand or more, to provide for the payment to prisoners confined in said house of correction of such pecuniary earnings and for the rendering of such assistance as it may deem proper, under such rules and regulations as it may provide, said rules and regulations, however, to be approved by the state board of control. Such earnings shall be paid out of the fund provided for the carrying on of the work in which the prisoner is engaged when employed on county account, and by the contractor when the prisoner is employed under contract.

b. Any money arising under this subdivision shall be and remain under the control of the inspector or principal keeper of said house of correction, to be used for the benefit of the prisoner, his family or dependent relatives, under such regulations as to time, manner and amount of disbursements as the board of supervisors may prescribe, but should any such prisoner wilfully escape from the house of correction, or become a fugitive from justice or commit any breach of discipline at said institution the said inspector or principal keeper or the state board of control may, in his or its discretion, cause the forfeiture of all earnings remaining to such prisoner's credit and the same shall be placed in the fund from which it was originally taken. In the case of earnings paid by the contractor to the prisoner employed under contract, the same shall be placed in the current expense fund of said house of correction.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved May 22, 1917.