

No. 139, A.]

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CHAPTER 19

AN ACT to repeal 49.22 (2) (c) 1 and 3; to renumber and amend 49.22 (2) (c) (intro. par.); to repeal and recreate 49.22 (2) (c) 2; and to create 49.22 (3) of the statutes, relating to eligibility for old-age assistance with reference to liquid assets and insurance.

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

SECTION 1. 49.22 (2) (c) 1 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 2. 49.22 (2) (c) (intro. par.) of the statutes is renumbered 49.22 (2) (c) 1 and amended to read:

49.22 (2) (c) 1. \$500 in liquid assets * * * which * * * may be retained by the recipient free of the control of the county agency.

SECTION 3. 49.22 (2) (c) 2 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

49.22 (2) (c) 2. Any sum which a recipient of old-age assistance shall have on deposit with the county treasurer for payment of his funeral expenses under s. 49.22 (2) (c) 1, statutes of 1953, shall be returned to the recipient.

SECTION 4. 49.22 (2) (c) 3 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 5. 49.22 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

49.22 (3) (a) Any person who applies for old-age assistance following the effective date of this subsection and who owns an insurance policy with a cash value not to exceed \$1,000 the premiums of which have been paid by some person other than the applicant may continue to own such policy without restriction or control by the county welfare agency provided the applicant does not request payment of the premiums of the policy by the welfare agency.

(b) Any person applying for or receiving old-age assistance who owns an insurance policy with a cash value not to exceed \$1,000 and requests the county welfare agency to provide for payment of premiums thereon shall name the county welfare agency as beneficiary of the policy and in naming the county welfare agency as beneficiary shall provide that the beneficiary so named can not be changed nor such policy cashed without the written consent of said beneficiary. From the proceeds of such policy, the welfare department shall first make an allowance for recipient's funeral expenses in an amount which combined with other funds of recipient shall not exceed \$300. After payment of funeral expenses, the proceeds from the policy shall be retained by the county agency named as beneficiary in payment of aid paid under ss. 49.20 to 49.40 furnished by such agency or other county agencies (on a pro rata basis if insufficient to pay in full) and any proceeds in excess of the amount needed to pay the claim for old-age assistance shall be disposed of as provided by the insured.

(c) The county agency granting old-age assistance to a person who has named the county agency beneficiary of a life insurance policy under par. (b) shall provide for the payment of the premiums on the policy. Such premiums may be included in the grant of the recipient within the maximum limitations of sub. (1) or paid directly to the insurance company without regard to the maximum limitation imposed by sub. (1) and if paid directly to the insurance company the county agency shall be entitled to deduct and retain as reimbursement for the amount so expended as premiums from the recovery made from the policy before reporting the balance as a recovery under s. 49.25.

(d) Any insurance policy heretofore assigned to county agencies by old-age assistance recipients under s. 49.22 (2) (c) 3, statutes of 1953, shall be reassigned to the old-age assistance recipients.

Approved March 24, 1955.
