

## CHAPTER 479.

[S. F. No. 846.]

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR IN THE COUNTY OF WINONA.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

SECTION 1. The town supervisors of each town and the mayor and common council of any city and the officers of any incorporated village in the county of Winona shall, by the virtue of their office, be superintendents of the poor of their respective towns, cities or villages.

SEC. 2. It shall be optional with the town supervisors of any town or the mayor and common council of every city or the municipal corporation of any incorporated village in the county of Winona, to provide for the support of any person having a legal residence in said town, city or village at such residence or elsewhere in said town, city or village, or to commit every such person to the poorhouse of said county, for which purpose a commitment, signed by the chairman of the board of supervisors of any such town, or the mayor of any such city or by the officer of any such incorporated village as may be designated by the authorities of such village, shall be sufficient authority to authorize the keeper of such poorhouse to receive and care for such persons in said poorhouse.

SEC. 3. No member of any board of supervisors, or any city or village council, charged with the care of the poor under the provisions of this act, shall be, either directly or indirectly, interested in the furnishing of any relief or supplies for the benefit of poor persons or in the erection or maintenance of any poorhouse; and no such member shall be a physician for the poor or overseer of the county poorhouse. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

SEC. 4. Any person who has resided in any town or city in said county one (1) year continuously shall, for the purposes of this act, be deemed to have gained a legal residence or settlement in such city, town or village. Every indentured servant or apprentice legally brought into said county shall obtain a legal settlement in the city or town or village in which said servant or apprentice served his master one (1) year, and any married woman, during coverture, shall be considered legally settled in the city, town or village in said county where her husband was last legally settled, but if he had no legal settlement, she shall be considered as settled in the place where she was last legally settled before marriage; and any minor, who has not been emancipated by his parents and gained a legal settlement in his own right, shall be considered as settled in the place where his parents or surviving parent was last legally settled.

SEC. 5. The county commissioners of said county of Winona shall, at their first meeting after this act goes into effect, fix and determine the cost of keeping and maintaining each poor person in the county poorhouse, and may annually thereafter, at their July meeting in each year, fix and determine such cost for the current year.

SEC. 6. The overseer of the poor or keeper of the poorhouse of said county shall keep an accurate account of the number of persons maintained annually in said poorhouse, and the length of time that every such person has been an inmate of such poorhouse during any year, and report the same to the county commissioners of said county at their July meeting, who shall thereupon levy a tax upon the taxable property of such town, city or incorporated village for an amount sufficient to reimburse the county for the cost of supporting such poor person, as fixed as aforesaid, and cause the same to be extended on the grand duplicate of such town, city or incorporated village, and the same shall be collected as other county and state taxes are collected.

SEC. 7. All taxes levied for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891) for the relief or support of the poor, after deducting the cost of maintaining any poor person resident in said town or city to May thirty-first (31st), eighteen hundred and ninety-two (1892), in said poorhouse, shall be placed to the credit of such town, city or incorporated village by the county treasurer, and paid by him to the treasurer of such town, city or incorporated village, upon order signed by the mayor of such city, the chairman of the board of supervisors of such town or the chairman of the board of the council of such incorporated village.

SEC. 8. The overseer of the poor or keeper of the county poorhouse shall discharge any poor person committed to the county poorhouse from any city or town in the said county, upon the written order of the mayor of such city, the chairman of the board of supervisors of such town or the chairman of the council of such incorporated village.

SEC. 9. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the county commissioners of said county from levying such taxes as may be required for the maintenance of the poor farm, and the repair and the erection of such buildings thereon as may by them be deemed necessary; and for such other necessary purposes connected with the maintenance of said poorhouse or poor farm, including medical or surgical attendance, not hereinbefore provided for, and causing the same to be extended upon the grand duplicate of said county for the purpose of providing sufficient means to support the inmates of such poorhouse until the county shall be reimbursed by the several towns as hereinbefore provided for, the county commissioners of said county are authorized to raise, by tax upon the taxable property of the county at large, a sufficient fund for that purpose, to be known as the county poor fund.

SEC. 10. The common council of any city, and the several towns and municipal corporations of incorporated villages of said county, shall levy, or cause to be levied, each year, a tax upon the real and personal property in said cities, towns or villages, respectively, of such sum, not exceeding one (1) mill upon each dollar of assessed valuation, as it shall deem necessary to provide for the relief of poor persons having a legal settlement therein needing public relief or support; which tax may, if necessary, be in addition to and in excess of the aggregate amount of city or township taxation otherwise authorized by law to be levied therein.

SEC. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the thirty-first (31st) day of May, eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891).

Approved April 11, 1891.