CHAPTER 138—S.F.No.831

An act relating to public welfare; providing for financial responsibility of nonresident parents of state hospital patients; amending Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 246.51.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 246.51, is amended to read:

246.51 PUBLIC WELFARE; STATE HOSPITALS; COST OF CARE; PAYMENT FOR CARE AND TREATMENT; DETERMI-NATION. The commissioner shall make such investigation as he deems necessary and determine, and as circumstances require redetermine, what part of the cost of care, if any, the patient is able to pay. If the commissioner finds that the patient is unable to pay the full cost of care he shall make a determination as to the ability of the relatives to pay provided, however, that in no case shall the relatives, unless they reside outside the state, be ordered to pay more for each patient than ten percent of the cost of care but voluntary payments in excess thereof may be accepted by the commissioner. In the case of nonresident parents of children receiving care in state hospitals in Minnesota, the commissioner may require payment of the full per capita cost of caring for such patients. No parent shall be liable for the cost of care given a patient at a state hospital after such patient has reached the age of 21 years. Such determination shall be conclusive in any action to enforce payment of the cost of care unless appealed from as hereinafter provided. All money received shall be paid to the state treasurer and placed in the general fund and a separate account kept thereof. Responsibility under this section shall not apply to those relatives earning less than \$4,000 per year.

Approved April 27, 1973.

CHAPTER 139—S.F.No.566

[Coded]

An act relating to public welfare; transferring authority relating to county nursing homes to the state board of health; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 144.583.

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by strikeout.