

Bill No. 52 of 1941.

A BILL TO AMEND THE HOSPITALS ACT, 1938.

NOTE.

This Bill amends *The Hospitals Act, 1938*.

The new subsections added to section 3 enable the Government to pay a grant to hospitals in Saskatchewan and British Columbia who care for and treat residents of Alberta, but is subject to reciprocal action on the part of the other provinces and only comes into force when such reciprocal arrangements have been made.

Section 5 is amended by adding one more paragraph to further amplify the meaning of cases which are stated to be sudden and urgent.

The amendment to subsection (6) of section 6 makes it clear that liability to a hospital is only determined by contract where the contract is with the hospital in question. The new subsection (8) of the same section enables disputes over residence or as to the meaning or effect of any contract to be referred by the person in question, the local authority, the hospital or the Minister to a District Court judge, who shall proceed to decide the question summarily rather than having such disputes referred to the Minister.

The former subsection (1) of section 7 referred only to patients suffering from an incurable disease and the amending subsection applies to patients who, in the opinion of the Superintendent or attending physician, are not in need of hospitalization. Frequently patients remain in a hospital longer than necessary, thus occupying space badly needed.

The amendment to section 13 makes it an offence for persons who are liable for the expenses of patients to refuse to remove them when they are required to do so. The reason for this amendment is the same as for the amendment to the above section.

W. S. GRAY,
Acting Legislative Counsel.

(This note does not form any part of the Bill but is offered in explanation of its provisions.)

REPRINTED BILL

BILL

No. 52 of 1941.

An Act to amend The Hospitals Act, 1938.

(Assented to _____, 1941.)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Hospitals Act, 1938, Amendment Act, 1941.*"

2. *The Hospitals Act, 1938*, being chapter 77 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1938, is hereby amended as to section 3 by adding at the end thereof the following new subsections:

"(5) Subject to the provisions of subsection (6) of this section the Lieutenant Governor in Council may pay to any hospital in a province bordering on Alberta, which receives a grant from the revenues of such province and which from time to time provides hospital treatment to residents of Alberta, a *per diem* allowance for each such patient so treated, equal to the allowance paid to such hospital by the government of the province in which it is situated.

"(6) Upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council being satisfied that reciprocal provisions have been made by the legislature of another such province, he may, by order, declare the provisions of subsection (5) of this section to be in force and to apply to such province."

3. The said Act is further amended as to section 5 by adding immediately after paragraph (b) of subsection (6) thereof the following new paragraph:

"(c) any person suffering from an illness who has suddenly developed an acute condition imperiling the life of such person."

4. The said Act is further amended as to section 6,—

- (a) by striking out the word "any", where the same occurs in the second line of subsection (6) thereof, and by substituting therefor the word "a";
- (b) by inserting immediately after the words "the liability of the local authority", where the same occur

in subsection (6) thereof, the words "for hospital treatment supplied by the contracting hospital";

- (c) by striking out subsections (8) and (9) thereof and by substituting therefor the following new subsection (8):

"(8) In the event of any dispute arising as to the meaning or effect of any contract or as to whether a person is a resident of the area of the local authority which is a party to such contract, the question shall be referred by the person, the local authority, the hospital or the Minister to a Judge of the District Court who shall proceed to decide the question in a summary manner and whose decision shall be final and conclusive";

- (d) by striking out the words and figures "(7), (8) and (9)", where the same occur in subsection (10) thereof, and by substituting therefor the words and figures "(7) and (8)".

5. The said Act is further amended as to section 7 by striking out subsection (1) thereof and by substituting therefor the following new subsection:

"7.—(1) When any patient, in the opinion of the Superintendent or attending physician, is no longer in need of the care given by an approved hospital, and should be cared for in some place other than an approved hospital, the Board shall notify by registered mail the local authority within whose area such person is a resident to remove such person from the hospital within ten days from the date of receipt of the notification, and to make such other arrangements for the care of such person as may be necessary."

6. The said Act is further amended as to section 13 by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(3) Any person who by this section is made liable to the Board for the payment of hospital charges in respect of any patient shall remove such patient from the hospital within ten days of receipt from the Board by registered mail of written notice so to do and any such person who fails to comply with such notice shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and in default of payment thereof to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days."

7. This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

REPRINTED BILL

No. 52.

**FIRST SESSION
NINTH LEGISLATURE**

5 GEORGE VI

1941

BILL

**An Act to amend The Hospitals
Act, 1938.**

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

HON. DR. CROSS.

**EDMONTON:
A. Shnitka, King's Printer
1941**