

A BILL

FOR AN ACT FOR THE CARE OF THE INCURABLE INSANE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. That there shall be erected and permanently established atan
2 asylum for the support, care and treatment of such insane persons as has or may hereafter
3 be dsicharged from the hospitals for the treatment of the insane as incurable.

SEC. 2. That the Governor of the State shall, as speedily after the taking effect of this act
2 as practicable, by and with the consent of the executive council of the State of Iowa, three
3 suitable persons, resident of this State, who shall constitute a board of commissioners for
4 the purpose of adopting plans and erecting an asylum for the insane of the State provided
5 for in this act, the persons so appointed shall be subject to removal by the Governor and in
6 case of a vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor shall fill such vacancy
7 by appointment.

SEC. 3. The board of commissioners provided in section 2 of this act shall, as speedily
2 after their appointment as practicable, purchase site such asylum for incurable insane, and
3 shall be selected with reference to its healthfulness, the site for such asylum shall consist
4 of not less than three hundred and twenty acres of land, and shall be so selected as to an
5 abundant supply of water and an opportunity for efficient drainage.

SEC. 4. That the deed for the conveyance of such site shall be executed to the State of
2 Iowa, convey an absolute title in fee simple, and accompanied by an abstract of title to the
3 land therein described, showing perfect title in the grantor or grantors at the time of the
4 execution of such deed or deeds, and when so executed and delivered, shall be deposited
5 with the Auditor of State and the State Treasurer shall then pay on the warrant of the Au-
6 ditor to the grantor or grantors such sum of money as the said board of commissioners shall
7 certify they have agreed to pay for such land.

SEC. 5. That said board of commissioners shall, as soon as practicable, procure and adopt
2 plans, specifications and estimates for buildings to be erected as such asylum, and shall
3 adopt the plan known as the cottage plan, and all buildings so erected shall be substan-
4 tially fire-proof; the exterior of the buildings shall be plain and of brick or stone.

SEC. 6. That as soon as the plans for such buildings are settled and adopted, and the
2 drawings and specifications thereof have been complete and procured, said board of com-
3 missioners shall invite bids or proposals for the material, labor and construction of said by
4 advertisement, to be published for thirty days in four daily papers, one of which shall be
5 published in the city of Des Moines, and the said board of commissioners shall have power

6 to prescribe such rules and forms for making and securing of bids or proposals as they shall
7 deem best, but no contract involving the expenditure of more than the sum of ten thousand
8 dollars (\$10,000) shall be made by said board of commissioners without first inviting such
9 bids, and all contracts shall be let to the lowest bidder complying with the rules and forms
10 prescribed by said board of commissioners.

SEC. 7. That the said board of commissioners shall employ a competent architect and
2 superintendent of construction, who shall receive such compensation as the said board shall,
3 by agreement, determine who may, in the discretion of the board, be the same person.

SEC. 8. The accounts of expenditure in construction of the buildings shall be certified to
2 by the superintendent and audited and approved by the board of commissioners and then
3 paid by warrant of the State, drawn in favor of the party to whom payment is due in the
4 usual manner, and the board is authorized to advance and pay on contracts before the same
5 are completely performed, not exceeding seventy-five per cent on estimates of material deliv-
6 ered or labor performed.

SEC. 9. Before entering upon his duties each commissioner shall take an oath and exe-
2 cute a bond in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars for the use of the State of Iowa to be
3 approved by the executive council, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State, condi-
4 tional for the faithful performance of his duties, and the honest and faithful disbursement
5 of, and accounting for all moneys which may come into his hands under the provisions of
6 this act.

SEC. 10. The commissioners shall each receive the sum of five dollars per day for the
2 time actually employed in the discharge of their duties and their actual traveling expenses
3 and for time and expenses they shall render bill under oath.

SEC. 11. That the said board of commissioners shall appoint a secretary from their num-
2 ber who shall keep a record of all the proceedings of said board, and an account of all ex-
3 penditures.

SEC. 12. That there be, and there is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treas-
2 ury not otherwise appropriated for the purposes of this act the sum of dollars,
3 provided that not more than one half of the amount shall be expended in the year of 1886.

SEC. 13. When said buildings or any of them shall be completed and ready for use the
2 commissioner shall notify the Governor of the State thereof, and he shall at once take steps
3 to organize the same by the appointment of a board of five trustees, who shall hold their
4 office until the meeting of the next session of the legislature, and whose qualifications and
5 duties shall be the same as now provided by law for the trustees of insane hospitals in the
6 State of Iowa and the laws of the State governing the hospitals and the admission of
7 patients shall be upon the certificate of the superintendent of one of the hospitals he or she
8 have been treated in the same and pronounced incurable upon examination for that pur-
9 pose.