

February 8, 1951.
Judiciary No. 2.

House File 362
By SLOANE and RYAN.

Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Passed Senate, Date.....
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved

A BILL FOR

An Act to legalize the action of the board of supervisors of Polk County, Iowa, in making certain expenditures at the Polk County home from the county poor fund.

Whereas, during the years 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949 the maximum revenue available to Polk County for the support of insane persons being cared for by Polk County in the insane ward of the county home, has been insufficient for said purpose; and

Whereas, in order to care for such insane persons in a humane and decent manner, it was necessary to, and the board of supervisors of Polk County, Iowa, did, approve claims aggregating three hundred sixty-two thousand, eight hundred sixty-seven dollars and eighty-eight cents (\$362,867.88) during said years and pay the same from the poor fund; and

Whereas, doubt has arisen as to the legality of the approval of said claims and it is now deemed advisable to put such doubts to rest, now therefore:

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. That the actions of the board of supervisors of
2 Polk County, Iowa, in approving claims aggregating three hundred
3 sixty-two thousand, eight hundred sixty-seven dollars and eighty-
4 eight cents (\$362,867.88) during the years 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947
5 1948 and 1949 for the support of insane persons being cared for
6 by Polk County in the insane ward of the county home, and the

7 payment of said claims from the poor fund of Polk County, Iowa,
8 are hereby legalized and declared valid, and the amounts so
9 paid are hereby declared to be proper expenditures from the
10 poor fund of Polk County, Iowa.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 362

Polk County is required to expend in the neighborhood of \$225,000 per year for the support of insane patients at its county home. The number of insane patients has been increasing and particularly since the policy of the state was announced to permit the county's insane patients to be cared for at the county home rather than at the state institutions. The tax levy for the county insane fund for the year 1944 through 1950, inclusive, was fixed at $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mill. As of 1950, $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mill in Polk County will raise only approximately \$85,000. In all the years covered by the proposed legalized act, due to the small amount of money available from the county insane fund, it was necessary to support these unfortunate persons by drawing from the county poor fund. It is to legalize these expenditures that this bill is presented. If the expenditures are not legalized and the county's poor fund should ever become exhausted, Polk County would be unable to secure any state assistance until the insane fund repaid its indebtedness to the poor fund.