

February 1, 1963.

Social Security.

*Withdrawn 3/29*

**House File 143**

By MENSING, McELROY, KREAGER,  
MAULE and JARVIS.

Passed House, Date.....

Passed Senate, Date.....

Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....

Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....

Approved.....

**A BILL FOR**

An Act relating to county appropriations and reimbursement to the state from fund for aid to the blind.

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

1 Section 1. Section two hundred forty-one point twenty  
2 (241.20), Code 1962, is hereby amended by striking all words  
3 after the word, "county" on line six (6) and inserting in lieu  
4 thereof the following:

5 "of that portion of all assistance and benefits payable with  
6 respect to blind persons chargeable to the county under this  
7 chapter, which shall equal one-half of all such assistance and  
8 benefits chargeable to the county exclusive of such receipts  
9 and contributions to such fund other than state or county funds  
10 as may from time to time be legally received from any source  
11 and credited to the state department and shall include in the  
12 tax levy for such county the sum or sums so appropriated for  
13 that purpose. The sums necessary as above provided shall be  
14 originally determined upon the basis of an annual budget  
15 prepared by the county board and approved by the state  
16 department. Should the sum so appropriated, however, be  
17 expended or exhausted during the year for which it was  
18 appropriated, such additional sums shall be appropriated by  
19 the board of supervisors from the county poor fund as shall  
20 be sufficient to meet the obligations of the county to pay its

21 share as heretofore provided of all assistance and benefits  
22 with respect to blind persons chargeable to the county. The  
23 tax levy provided for in this section shall not exceed  
24 statutory tax limitations now or hereafter provided.”

1 Sec. 2. Section two hundred forty-one point twenty-one  
2 (241.21), Code 1962, is hereby amended by striking from line  
3 seventeen (17) through line twenty-six (26) all words after  
4 the word, “recipients” and inserting in lieu thereof the  
5 following:  
6 “which is chargeable to the county. The county board  
7 shall promptly report the same to the county board of  
8 supervisors which shall then order paid from the county poor  
9 fund a sum representing the county’s share thereof determined  
10 in the manner heretofore provided, which payment shall be  
11 credited to the fund for aid to the blind.”

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 143

A change is recommended in this section to provide uniformity of county participation in the aid to the blind, aid to dependent children and aid to the disabled programs and to eliminate the requirement that county aid to the blind budgets be approved by the state board.

The aid to the blind program is the only one in which the counties are required to participate in a part of the cost of administration. This requirement necessitates considerable record keeping and eliminates any possibility of simplifying time reporting procedures by the counties. To take full advantage of federal participation in administrative costs the county method of time reporting must be revised effective July 1, 1963, and such a revision cannot be accomplished under the present Iowa law.

The present method of county participation in aid to the blind assistance has a tendency to work a hardship on counties when federal participation is increased. When increased federal participation is passed along to blind recipients, the county share is also increased because they must pay one-fourth of the total grant. Thus when a blind grant is increased \$1, regardless of the source of funds, the county share is increased 25c. Under this proposal when increased federal participation is passed on to recipients the counties’ share would be decreased by one-half the amount of the increase in federal funds.