

February 25, 1963.

Board of Control.

*Pass 3/20  
appropriations 4/8*

**House File 341**

By GITTINS and OSSIAN  
(Lisle and Long).

Passed House, Date.....

Passed Senate, Date.....

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

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

Approved.....

**A BILL FOR**

An Act to grant relief to long-term mentally ill persons or persons liable for their support by providing funds to grant cash credit for prompt payment for such claims; to grant property tax relief to counties by accelerating collection of billings for cost of care and treatment through reduction of total cost to responsible relatives with the credit being provided from the state mentally ill assistance fund and to make an appropriation therefor.

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

1 Section 1. Section two hundred thirty point fifteen (230.15),  
2 Code 1962, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the  
3 following:

4 "The county auditor shall, in enforcing such obligation, give  
5 recognition to the following:

6 1. Mentally ill persons or persons legally liable for the  
7 support of mentally ill persons confined to a mental health in-  
8 stitute for a period longer than one year when paying such  
9 liability within the calendar quarter period following the  
10 quarter being billed shall be given a credit of fifty percent  
11 of each quarterly billing to the county by a mental health in-  
12 stitute for the support of such patient, provided that the  
13 charges for care therefor for the period of eligibility have  
14 been satisfied.

15 2. There is hereby created a permanent fund in the office  
16 of the treasurer of state to be known as the state "assistance  
17 fund for mentally ill" and for the purpose of establishing and

18 maintaining said fund for each fiscal year beginning July 1, 1963,  
19 there is appropriated thereto from the general fund, not other-  
20 wise appropriated, the sum of seven hundred thousand (700,000)  
21 dollars. Any balance in said fund on June 30 of the second  
22 fiscal year of each biennium shall revert to the general fund.

23 3. The state aid herein provided shall be paid to the claim-  
24 ant county upon a certified claim being filed quarterly by the  
25 county auditor with the state comptroller setting forth in detail  
26 the credits granted for the prompt payment of claims for the  
27 care of mentally ill persons as outlined in subsection one (1).

28 4. The granting of such credits shall be applicable only to  
29 those quarterly billings for the care of mentally ill persons  
30 who have been confined to a mental health institute for a period  
31 of more than one year. In computing eligibility for such credit,  
32 yearly periods are to be determined from the beginning of the  
33 calendar month following admission to the mental health in-  
34 stitute and such eligibility shall be carried forward on read-  
35 mission.

36 5. If such mental health assistance fund is insufficient to  
37 reimburse all claims made upon it, the state comptroller shall  
38 prorate such claims on the basis of funds available or if ex-  
39 hausted shall refuse to honor further claims and return them to  
40 the claimant county.

41 6. No claims for a prior fiscal period shall be honored or  
42 paid from the appropriation for a later fiscal period, except  
43 as provided in subsection one (1).

#### EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 341

This bill provides for reduced charges to a long term mental institution patient who makes financial settlement with his supporting county and provides property relief by a state appropriation to reimburse the county for its share. This bill would encourage more payments by individuals and collections by counties.