



ANNO QUINTO

GEORGII VI REGIS.

A.D. 1941.

No. 10 of 1941.

An Act to amend the Hospitals Act, 1934.

[Assented to 1st October, 1941.]

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows :

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the "Hospitals Act Amendment Act, 1941".

Short titles.

(2) The Hospitals Act, 1934, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the "Hospitals Act, 1934-1941".

(3) The Hospitals Act, 1934, is hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act".

2. Section 4 of the principal Act is amended by striking out the definition of "inspector-general" and by inserting in lieu thereof the following definition :—

Amendment of principal Act, s. 4—
Definition of "director-general".

"director-general" means the Director-General of Medical Services appointed pursuant to the Mental Defectives Act, 1935-1939 :

3. The passage "inspector-general" wherever occurring in the principal Act is struck out and in every case the passage "director-general" is inserted in lieu thereof.

Consequential amendment of principal Act.

4. Section 47 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by striking out subsections (1) and (2) thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the following subsections :—

Amendment of principal Act, s. 47—
Maintenance of patients in public hospitals.

(1) The director-general may from time to time in respect of any public hospital fix—

- (a) a daily rate of payment which shall be payable for the cost of maintenance of persons as patients in the hospital :
- (b) rates of payment which shall be payable for the treatment of persons as out-patients at the hospital :
- (c) rates of payment which shall be payable in respect of medical supplies provided to persons from or at the hospital.

(2) If, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, any person is a patient in or is treated at, or is provided with any medical supplies from or at any public hospital, an amount in accord with the appropriate rate fixed pursuant to subsection (1), together with all other special costs and charges which may be incurred with respect to the said person, shall be a debt due to the Crown for which the following persons shall be jointly and severally liable :—

- I. The person first mentioned :
- II. The husband or wife of the said person :
- III. If the said person is under the age of twenty-one years, the father of the said person or, if the father is dead, the mother of the said person :
- IV. The children of the said person who were over twenty-one years of age at the time the liability was incurred.

(2a) The director-general may remit the whole or any part of any amount payable under this section. The director-general may, in writing, authorize any person to exercise any of the powers conferred upon the director-general by this subsection. Any such authority may be of such general or limited application as is determined by the director-general and may be revoked at any time by the director-general.

- (b) by striking out the words "as first mentioned in subsection (1) hereof" in the first and second lines of subsection (3) thereof ;

- (c) by striking out the words " the cost of his maintenance in the public hospital " in the fourth and fifth lines of subsection (3) thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the words " any amount payable pursuant to subsection (2) is recoverable " ;
- (d) by inserting after the word " and " in the second line of subsection (4) thereof the words " any amount payable pursuant to this section " ;
- (e) by striking out the words " the maintenance in any public hospital of any patient " in the second and third lines of subsection (7) thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the words " the payment of any amount payable pursuant to this section " ;
- (f) by striking out the word " patient " in the penultimate line of subsection (7) thereof and by inserting in lieu thereof the words " person in respect of whom the said amount is payable " ;
- (g) by striking out the definition of " cost of maintenance " in subsection (10) thereof.

In the name and on behalf of His Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

C. M. BARCLAY-HARVEY, Governor.