

Education and Welfare approves or approved Federal participation in medical assistance for the aged for patients in geriatric centers.

APPROVED—The 20th day of April, A. D. 1965.

WILLIAM W. SCRANTON

No. 13

AN ACT

SB 245

Amending the act of June 24, 1937 (P. L. 2051), entitled, as amended, "An act relating to public assistance; providing for and regulating assistance to certain classes of persons designated and defined as dependent children, aged persons, blind persons and other persons requiring relief; providing for the administration of this act by the Department of Public Welfare and county boards of assistance hereby created for this purpose; authorizing the Department of Public Welfare to cooperate with, and to accept and disburse moneys received from, the United States Government for assistance to such persons; providing for the liquidation of the State Emergency Relief Board, Boards of Trustees of the Mothers' Assistance Fund, and Boards of Trustees of Pension Fund for the Blind; and repealing laws relating to mothers' assistance, pensions for the blind, old age assistance, and the State Emergency Relief Board," further providing for medical assistance to the aged by changing the definition of "public nursing home care" and including "geriatric center care" and costs thereof; and further providing for applications.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Clause (4) of subsection (a) of section 9.1, act of June 24, 1937 (P. L. 2051), known as the "Public Assistance Law," amended June 19, 1964 (P. L. 75), is amended to read:

Section 9.1. Medical Assistance for the Aged.—(a) As used in this act,

* * *

(4) "Public nursing home care," means inpatient treatment and care, other than inpatient hospital care, in a public medical institution or distinct part of a public medical institution operated by a county, county institution district or municipality, exclusive of institutions for tuberculosis or mental illness. Public nursing home care also means inpatient treatment and care, other than inpatient hospital care, in a geriatric center [operated by the Department of Public Welfare].

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Section 2. Subsection (a) of section 9.1 of the act is amended by adding, at the end thereof, two new clauses to read:

Section 9.1. Medical Assistance for the Aged.—(a) As used in this act,

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(7) "Geriatric center care," means public nursing home care or in-patient or outpatient diagnostic, screening or preventive services in a geriatric center operated by the department.

(8) "Cost of geriatric center care," means the average per patient, per diem or per visit operating expense of providing such care.

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Section 3. Subsection (b) of section 9.1 of the act is amended by adding, at the end thereof, a new clause to read:

Section 9.1. Medical Assistance for the Aged.— * * *

(b) Medical assistance for the aged shall consist of full or partial payment of any or all of the following care or services for which Federal financial participation is available:

* * *

(6) The cost of geriatric center care.

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Section 4. Subsection (b) of section 13.1 of the act, amended August 13, 1963 (P. L. 777) and August 14, 1963 (P. L. 1063), is amended to read:

Section 13.1. Application.— * * *

(b) Whenever a person in need of medical assistance for the aged or purchased hospital care and post hospital care, geriatric center care or public nursing home care is unable to make application therefor by reason of his illness or infirmity, application on his behalf may be made by a relative, friend or official of the institution providing medical care. Such application shall contain a statement as required in subsection (a) of this section and a bond conditioned as therein provided, except that such applicant shall be permitted to make affidavit that the facts set forth in such statement are, to the best of his knowledge and belief, true and correct.

Section 5. This act shall take effect as of the first day of the month following the date on which the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare approves or approved Federal participation in medical assistance for the aged for patients in geriatric centers.

APPROVED—The 20th day of April, A. D. 1965.

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