

Section 2. Upon the acquisition of any land in the name of the Commonwealth, the Department of Property and Supplies shall construct thereon a new institution which shall be known as the "Pennsylvania School for Mental Defectives." The plans and specifications of the institution shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Welfare, and shall provide for suitable buildings and an adequate water supply system, sewage treatment works, heat and electric power plant or plants, service lines, and other necessary equipment, structures and improvements. The buildings shall be of modern design, plain and substantial, and capable of extension as the needs of the institution may require.

Department of Property and Supplies to construct new institution to be known as "Pennsylvania School for Mental Defectives."

Section 3. The Department of Welfare shall receive into the custody of such institution, for care, guidance and control, mental defectives, in the manner provided by law.

Institution to be used for care, guidance and control of mental defectives.

Section 4. The management and operation of the school and the care, maintenance and employment of the inmates, shall be the function of the Department of Welfare. Subject to and in the manner provided in The Administrative Code of 1929 and its amendments, the Department of Welfare shall have power to employ and fix the compensation of a superintendent, deputy superintendent, chaplain, guards, physicians, mechanics, clerks, stenographers, and other employes, as may be deemed necessary for the proper maintenance and management of the school and the safekeeping therein of its inmates. The compensation of all persons so appointed and all other expenses in connection with the care and maintenance of inmates of the institution shall be paid from the appropriation made to the Department of Welfare for such purposes.

Duties and powers of Department of Welfare.

Section 5. In the management of the Pennsylvania School for Mental Defectives, the Department of Welfare shall have all the power conferred and perform all the duties imposed by the laws of the Commonwealth on the boards of trustees of the mental hospitals and institutions for mental defectives and epilepsy in Pennsylvania.

Management of institution.

APPROVED—The 24th day of May, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 87

AN ACT

Relating to the admissibility in evidence and the proof of official records, documents and proceedings of the United States Government, and of copies thereof, and extracts therefrom, and certificates in reference thereto.

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

Federal official records, etc., as evidence.

Section 1. Federal Official Records; Admissibility.—A book of records regularly kept by any public officer of the United States, when acting under any law or regulation or other authority, is admissible to evidence any matter recorded therein and pertaining to the duties of the office.

Section 2. Federal Miscellaneous Documents; Certified Copies of Official Records; Authentication.—A book of records made by any public officer of the United States and kept in a public office, when itself relevant and admissible for any purpose, may be evidenced, without producing the original, by a copy certified by the officer or his deputy having lawful custody thereof, under the seal of the office, if there be a seal, or if not, then under the seal of the United States court of the district in which the office is located.

Section 3. Federal Judicial Records; Attested Copies Under Seal; Certificates.—The records and judicial proceedings of any court of the United States may be evidenced by a copy attested by the clerk of the court, with the seal of the court annexed, together with a certificate of the judge, chief justice, or presiding magistrate, that the attestation is in due form.

Section 4. Entries or Extracts of Records.—A copy, certified as in sections two and three, of one or more entries or other separable parts of such a book of records is admissible if it purports to contain all of that part of the record that is relevant to the purpose for which it is offered.

Section 5. Entries Lacking in Records.—A certificate made by any of the foregoing officers, as provided in sections two and three, stating after diligent search no records or entry of a specified tenor is found to exist in the records or files of his office, is admissible.

Section 6. Federal Documents Filed in Public Office; Certified Copies; Original.—A copy of a document, not being a conveyance of title or other interest in property, required or allowed by law to be filed in a public office of the United States, is admissible to evidence the original, when certified by the lawful custodian of the records of that office, under seal of the office. In any such case, the court may, on request of a party, order the production of the original document for any purpose.

Section 7. Official Certificates of Returns; Copies; Authentication.—A certificate or return required by law or regulation to be made and filed by any officer of the United States having duties of administration or inspection or supervision, stating that in the course of his duty he has personally done or observed a matter, is admissible, as well as a copy thereof, if authenticated as provided in section eight.

Section 8. Federal Official Documents; Federal Register; Printed Copies.—The official records and other documents, being enactments, or regulations, or decisions, or rulings, or proceedings, or reports, or other official acts of Congress, or any Federal executive department or subdivision therein, or of any Federal court, or commission, or board, or agency, or public institution, may be evidenced by the Federal Register, or by a printed book, or pamphlet, or periodical, purporting to be published by the Government Printing Office by authority.

Section 9. Repeal.—All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED—The 24th day of May, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

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No. 88

AN ACT

To amend the title and the act, approved the sixth day of April, one thousand nine hundred forty-five (Pamphlet Laws 164), entitled "An act authorizing and empowering minors seventeen years of age, or older, to contract for and to make loans in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress, known as the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," or any agency of the Commonwealth hereafter created, and saving and relieving the parents, guardians, and trustees of such minors from any liability therefor, unless joining therein," empowering minor spouses, irrespective of age, to join in the execution of such contracts, whether or not the principal is a minor; and validating the actions of minor spouses of adults in heretofore joining in the execution of any such contracts.

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

\* Section 1. The title of the act, approved the sixth day of April, one thousand nine hundred forty-five (Pamphlet Laws 164), entitled "An act authorizing and empowering minors seventeen years of age, or older, to contract for and to make loans in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress, known as the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," or any agency of the Commonwealth hereafter created, and saving and relieving the parents, guardians, and trustees of such minors from any liability therefor, unless joining therein, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Title, act of April 6, 1945, P. L. 164, amended.

AN ACT

Amended title.

Authorizing and empowering minors seventeen years of age, or older, to contract for and to make loans in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress,