

pension fund the amount withdrawn; in which event the period of twenty years shall be computed from the time the said employe first entered the service of said city. In the event of the death of any such employe before the said employe becomes entitled to the pension aforesaid, the said total amount of contributions aforesaid shall be paid over to such person or persons as he or she shall have designated in writing and filed with the board of pensions as his or her beneficiary or to his or her estate.

Where employe dies before becoming entitled to pension.

Section 2. The increases in pension payments provided by this amending act shall be deemed cost-of-living increases and shall not be construed as a permanent and binding obligation of the pension fund which will, in perpetuity, entitle present and future beneficiaries under the fund to secure pension payment predicated upon such increases. Such increased pension payment shall be subject to revision by the General Assembly in the event of a decline or a rise in the cost of living. In no event, however, shall any decrease in living costs result in decreasing the pension payments in effect prior to the effective date of this amending act.

Increases in pension payments provided by this act deemed cost-of-living increases only.

Section 3. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

Such increased pension payment subject to revision by General Assembly.

Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 19th day of July, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 242

AN ACT

To further amend subsection (b) of section 2 of the act, approved the twenty-ninth day of September, one thousand nine hundred thirty-eight (Pamphlet Laws 53), entitled, as amended, "An act relating to institutions of counties, cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions, for the care, maintenance, and treatment of mental patients; providing for the transfer to the Commonwealth for the care, maintenance and treatment of mental patients of such institutions, and all grounds, lands, buildings and personal property of such political subdivisions used for the care and maintenance of indigent persons connected with such mental institutions; providing for the management and operation or closing and abandonment thereof; and the maintenance of mental patients therein; including the collection of maintenance in certain cases; providing for the retransfer of certain property to counties; cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions under certain circumstances; conferring and imposing upon the Governor, the Department of Welfare, the courts of common pleas and counties, cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions certain powers and duties; prohibiting cities, counties, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions from maintaining

and operating institutions, in whole or in part, for the care and treatment of mental patients; and repealing inconsistent laws," by extending the time for the transfer to the Commonwealth of institutions used in the care and maintenance of indigent persons by certain political subdivisions.

Mental health.

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

Subsection (b) of section 2, act of September 29, 1938, P. L. 53, as last amended by act of April 21, 1949, P. L. 707, further amended.

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 2 of the act, approved the twenty-ninth day of September, one thousand nine hundred thirty-eight (Pamphlet Laws 53), entitled, as amended, "An act relating to institutions of counties, cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions, for the care, maintenance, and treatment of mental patients; providing for the transfer to the Commonwealth for the care, maintenance and treatment of mental patients of such institutions and all grounds, lands, buildings and personal property of such political subdivisions used for the care and maintenance of indigent persons connected with such mental institutions; providing for the management and operation or closing and abandonment thereof; and the maintenance of mental patients therein, including the collection of maintenance in certain cases; providing for the retransfer of certain property to counties, cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions under certain circumstances; conferring and imposing upon the Governor, the Department of Welfare, the courts of common pleas and counties, cities, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions certain powers and duties; prohibiting cities, counties, wards, boroughs, townships, institution districts and other political subdivisions from maintaining and operating institutions, in whole or in part, for the care and treatment of mental patients; and repealing inconsistent laws," as last amended by the act, approved the twenty-first day of April, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 707), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 2.

* * * * *

Time for transfer of certain institutions from municipalities to Commonwealth extended to November 30, 1953

(b) Any county, city, ward, borough, township, institution district or other political subdivision presently operating or maintaining, in whole or in part, any existing institutions for the care and maintenance of indigent persons shall cease to operate and shall vacate such institutions and forthwith surrender all such institutions to the Commonwealth, but not later than the thirtieth day of November, one thousand nine hundred [fifty-one] *fifty-three*: Provided, however, That the transfer of title and the vacating of any of such in-

Proviso.

stitutions shall not be made until the first notice shall have been given by the Commonwealth to the political subdivision that owns such institution that the Commonwealth elects to purchase such institution, and second, that the Commonwealth and such political subdivision have agreed on the purchase price, and that the purchase price therefor has been paid in full, so as to enable the political subdivision to enter into contracts for the building or purchase of land and suitable building or buildings for the care of its indigents, and third, that possession of such institution shall not be given to the Commonwealth until such time as it may be mutually agreed to by the Commonwealth and such political subdivision. The purchase price agreed upon, as aforesaid, may in addition to the payment of money by the Commonwealth, also include the transfer by the Commonwealth to the institution district of the county in which the same is located for the care and maintenance of indigent persons of lands, buildings, furnishings, equipment and other chattels heretofore used by the Commonwealth for the care of mental patients, upon certification by the Department of Welfare, approved by the Governor, that the same are no longer required by the Commonwealth for the purposes of a mental hospital. An authenticated copy of such certification and approval, with reference to the provisions of this act, when duly recorded in the office of recorder of deeds of the proper county, shall operate as a good and sufficient deed of conveyance and assignment of such property from the Commonwealth to the institution district of said county.

APPROVED—The 19th day of July, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 243

AN ACT

To further amend section 1917 of the act, approved the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred thirty-three (Pamphlet Laws 103), entitled "An act concerning townships of the second class; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," by permitting lands or buildings to be set aside or acquired as recreation places, and to provide for the supervision, operation and maintenance thereof without approval by the electors.

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

Section 1. Section 1917 of the act, approved the first day of May, one thousand nine hundred thirty-three

"The Second
Class Township
Code."