

## No. 291

## AN ACT

Amending the act of June 3, 1943 (P. L. 847), entitled, as amended, "An act creating a revolving fund in the State Treasury to be used by the State Council for the Blind, to purchase, own, install, maintain and lease equipment and accessories for suitable business enterprises for the blind and for making advancements to blind persons for the purchase of merchandise, stock, equipment and accessories necessary to operate vending or refreshment stands or other suitable business enterprises in locations leased or arranged for by said council; providing for the payment for the lease of such equipment and accessories and for repayment of such advancements; authorizing the State Council for the Blind to adopt rules and regulations and accept Federal funds," further regulating leases made to blind persons, extending the authority of the State Council for the Blind to engage in business enterprises, amending the rate of repayment of such advancements, increasing the revolving fund and permitting the transfer to the revolving fund of moneys heretofore collected from the licensing of vending machines in State buildings.

State Council  
for the Blind.

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

Section 2, act of  
June 3, 1943,  
P. L. 847,  
amended Janu-  
ary 14, 1952,  
P. L. 2051, fur-  
ther amended.

Section 1. Section 2, act of June 3, 1943 (P. L. 847), entitled, as amended, "An act creating a revolving fund in the State Treasury to be used by the State Council for the Blind, to purchase, own, install, maintain and lease equipment and accessories for suitable business enterprises for the blind and for making advancements to blind persons for the purchase of merchandise, stock, equipment and accessories necessary to operate vending or refreshment stands or other suitable business enterprises in locations leased or arranged for by said council; providing for the payment for the lease of such equipment and accessories and for repayment of such advancements; authorizing the State Council for the Blind to adopt rules and regulations and accept Federal funds," amended January 14, 1952 (P. L. 2051), is amended to read:

Section 2. The State Council for the Blind is hereby authorized to purchase, own, install, maintain, *license* and lease equipment [and], accessories *and vending machines* to be used for suitable business enterprises for *or on behalf of* the blind and to advance to deserving blind persons out of moneys in the "Employment Fund for the Blind," such reasonable amounts as may be considered proper to enable such blind persons to purchase the merchandise, equipment, stock and accessories necessary to put into operation a vending or refreshment stand or other suitable business enterprises in some suitable location to be leased or arranged for by the state council. Pennsylvania blind veterans of the World Wars shall be given first preference for locations established, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Randolph-

Sheppard Act and the rules and regulations pursuant thereto.

Such business enterprises shall be approved by the State Council for the Blind and supervised periodically by the council or its agents.

The leases or permits for the installation and operation of any such stands or other suitable business enterprises shall be secured by the State Council for the Blind in its own name.

Any moneys advanced to a blind person under the authority of this act shall be repaid by such person in monthly installments, which shall in no case be less than two per centum (2%) of the gross monthly sales made at the stand or business in question.

Equipment and accessories purchased, owned, installed and maintained by the State Council for the Blind may be leased to deserving blind persons for an amount not to exceed four per centum (4%) of the gross monthly sales, *except in those locations in which the gross monthly sales do not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Such rental in these locations shall not exceed one per centum of the gross monthly sales.* The council shall periodically regulate the rental fees charged to such blind persons in accordance with the regulations to be adopted by it, in such a manner as to achieve approximate equality of opportunity to such blind persons, and to assure that the fund shall at no time exceed [fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)] *seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000)*. The State Council for the Blind shall transmit all such repayments and rental fees into the State Treasury, where they shall be credited to the "Employment Fund for the Blind."

*The State Council for the Blind is authorized to receive and transmit to the State Treasury for credit to the "Employment Fund for the Blind" all moneys heretofore or hereafter received by the Commonwealth on account of contracts between the Commonwealth, acting through the Department of Property and Supplies, and vending machine owners, whereby the Commonwealth is to receive a percentage of the profits from vending machines operated in State buildings.*

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 1st day of September, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE