

[CHAPTER 101]

AN ACT

April 27, 1945

[S. 638]

[Public Law 45]

To amend the Code of Laws of the District of Columbia by adding a new section 548a, and providing for the recording of veterans' discharge certificates.

District of Columbia Code, amendment.

31 Stat. 1275.

D. C. Code § 45-701.

Recording of veterans' service and discharge certificates.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Code of Laws of the District of Columbia, approved March 3, 1901, be amended by adding thereto the following new section:

"SEC. 548a. The recorder shall also receive for record and record all certificates of service and certificates of discharge of persons released from active duty in or discharged from the armed forces of the United States, for which no fee shall be charged or collected, but the record of any certificate authorized by this section to be recorded shall not constitute constructive notice of the existence or contents of such certificate. For making certified copies of any of the foregoing certificates from the records in the office of the recorder the usual fees shall be charged."

Approved April 27, 1945.

[CHAPTER 102]

AN ACT

April 28, 1945

[S. 123]

[Public Law 46]

To amend section 14 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for commitments to, maintenance in, and discharges from the District Training School, and for other purposes", approved March 3, 1925, and to amend section 15 thereof, as amended.

District Training School.

43 Stat. 1137, 1138.

D. C. Code §§ 32-615, 32-616.

Liability of estate of public patient for maintenance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 14 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for commitments to, maintenance in, and discharges from the District Training School, and for other purposes", approved March 3, 1925, and section 15 thereof, as amended, be amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. If the order for admission is as a public patient, and it shall appear then or at any time thereafter that the patient has an estate out of which the Government may be reimbursed for his maintenance, in whole or in part, the court shall order the payment out of such estate of the whole or such part of the cost of maintenance of said patient at said institution as it shall deem just, regard being had for the needs of those having a legal right to support out of said estate, which said order shall remain in full force and effect unless modified by the court. Upon the death of such feeble-minded person while an inmate at such institution or within five years after discharge therefrom, his estate shall be liable to the District of Columbia for the cost of his maintenance at said institution, and the claim of the District of Columbia shall be a preferred claim.

Responsibility of designated relatives.

"SEC. 15. If the order for admission is as a public patient and the court at any time finds that the patient has not an estate out of which the District of Columbia may be fully reimbursed for his maintenance, the father, mother, husband, wife, and adult children of such feeble-minded person, if of sufficient ability, shall pay the cost to the District of Columbia of his maintenance at the District Training School, at Laurel, Maryland. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia may petition the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia, at any time during the commitment of such feeble-minded person to said institution, to direct any such relative or relatives to

Proceedings to enforce payment.

pay the District of Columbia, in whole or in part, for his maintenance at said institution: *Provided*, That in no case shall any such relative or relatives be required to pay more than the actual cost to the District of Columbia of the maintenance of such feeble-minded person.

“If the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia finds that any such relative or relatives is or are able to pay for the maintenance of such feeble-minded person, in whole or in part, it may make an order requiring payment by any such relative or relatives of such sum or sums as it may find he or they are reasonably able to pay and as may be necessary to provide for the maintenance of such feeble-minded person. Said order shall require the payment of such sum or sums to the Collector of Taxes of the District of Columbia annually, semiannually, quarterly, or monthly, as the court may direct. It shall be the duty of the said Collector of Taxes to collect the said sum or sums due under this section and section 14, and turn the same into the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the District of Columbia. If any such relative or relatives made liable for the maintenance of such feeble-minded person shall fail to provide or pay for such maintenance, in accordance with the order of court, the court shall issue to such relative or relatives a citation to show cause why he or they should not be adjudged in contempt. The citation shall be served at least ten days before the hearing thereon.

Court order.

Payment to Collector of Taxes.

Ante, p. 100.

Citation upon failure to provide or pay.

“Any such order may be enforced against any property of any such relative or relatives made liable for the maintenance of such feeble-minded person, in the same way as if it were an order for temporary alimony in a divorce case.

Enforcement of court order.

“Upon the death of any such relative ordered by the court to pay for the maintenance of such feeble-minded person in whole or in part, the estate of such relative shall be liable to the District of Columbia for the unpaid amount due the District of Columbia under said order of court at the time of the death of said relative, and the claim of the District of Columbia shall be a preferred claim against such estate.”

Liability of estate upon death of contributing relative.

Approved April 28, 1945.

[CHAPTER 103]

AN ACT

Relating to escapes of prisoners of war and interned enemy aliens.

April 30, 1945

[H. R. 1525]

[Public Law 47]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever procures the escape of any prisoner of war held by the United States or any of its allies, or the escape of any person apprehended or interned as an enemy alien by the United States or any of its allies, or advises, connives at, aids, or assists in such escape, or aids, relieves, transports, harbors, conceals, shelters, protects, holds correspondence with, gives intelligence to, or otherwise assists any such prisoner of war or enemy alien, after his escape from custody, knowing him to be such prisoner of war or enemy alien, or attempts to commit or conspires to commit any of the above acts, shall be fined not more than \$10,000, or imprisoned for not more than ten years, or both. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in substitution for any other provision of law.

Prisoners of war and enemy aliens. Procuring or assisting in escape, etc.

Approved April 30, 1945.