

File No. 12182 Continued.

OPINION.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

Baltimore, December 20th, 1910.

Dr. J. Hall Pleasants,  
 President, Board of  
 Supervisors, City Charities,  
 Baltimore.

Dear Sir:-

9822 I have your favor of the 16th relating to the proper interpretation of Chapter 715 of the Acts of 1910, and especially Section 38G thereof, relating to the per capita annual charge for City patients in State Hospitals for the Insane. I have also read very carefully the letter, dated December 15th, from Harry J. Hopkins, Chief Clerk of the Comptroller, to Mr. Grasty.

I see no reason to recede from the position that I originally took with you when this matter was first brought to my attention and which position is correctly stated by you in your letter to me of the 16th.

9823 The language of Section 38G provides in the clearest and most positive manner that for each City patient in any State Hospital, (which, of course, includes Springfield State Hospital and the Maryland Hospital for the Insane), the City shall pay into the State Treasury at the rate of one hundred dollars for the board, care and treatment of such patient, and that any remaining amount required for the board, care and treatment of such insane patient shall be paid from the treasury of the State.

9824 It is provided further in Section 3 of the Act that all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with its provisions are repealed. And in Section 4 it is expressly provided that the Act shall take effect from the date of its passage, which was April 8th, 1910.

The language above referred to states as clearly as human language can state that from and after the 8th of April, 1910, the City shall only be required to pay for each City patient in a State Hospital for the Insane at the rate of one hundred dollars per annum and that all costs and expenses over and above this amount shall be paid by the State.