

county commissioners shall notify the State comptroller that it is claimed by them that such patient is not a proper charge against their county, and shall claim that the said patient is a proper charge against some other county, it shall be the duty of the county commissioners of each of said counties to file such proofs as they may have with the State comptroller within thirty days from the time of such notification and thereupon it shall be the duty of the State comptroller to investigate the question of the residence of such patient and to determine of what county said patient is a proper charge, and shall thereupon notify each of said counties of such determination, and shall notify the superintendent of the State hospital for the insane, and the counties aforesaid shall thereafter treat and regard such patient as of the county according to the determination of the State comptroller, and if the State comptroller shall find that such patient is not a proper charge against any county of the State, such patient shall thereafter be regarded as a proper charge against the State at large. The amount incurred by any county of this State for treatment and maintenance for any insane person in the State hospitals for the insane shall be a charge against the estate of such person; provided, that the insane person has no heirs within the United States dependent upon the said estate for support; and provided further, that no real property shall be sold for debt incurred for the treatment and maintenance by any county during the life of the insane person; and further provided that no personal property shall be sold for said debt within five years from the date of the sending of such insane person to a State hospital for the insane, unless by order of the proper court, where such property is liable to deteriorate in value during the time above specified, and when sold as above the Circuit Court for the county shall order the proceeds thereof to be safely invested for the benefit of such insane person.

This section referred to in dealing with state's liability under act of 1914, ch. 778, for support of dependent insane at Sylvan Retreat (owned and operated by Allegany county). *Allegany County v. Lunacy Commission*, 127 Md. 165.

See notes to sec. 6.

1920, ch. 206.

48. The Board of Mental Hygiene shall have power and authority to make arrangements with similar bodies in other States, whereby insane, lunatic or feeble-minded persons who are being cared for at public expense in any asylum or institution for the care of the insane in this State (other than persons who shall have been transferred thereto from penal institutions, and the terms of whose sentences to such penal institutions shall not have expired), and who are citizens or residents of such other States, may be transferred at the expense of this State to similar institutions in such other States, and whereby insane, lunatic or feeble-minded persons who are being cared for at public expense in such asylums or institutions of other States (other than persons who shall have been transferred from penal institutions, and the terms of whose sentences to such penal institutions shall not have expired) and who are citizens or residents of this State, may be transferred at the expense of such other States to similar institutions in this State, provided that nothing in this section contained