

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 21 to 31, inclusive, of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "State Aid and Charities," sub-title "Mother's Relief," be and they are hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof seven new sections to be known as Sections 21 to 27, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to said Article, to read as follows:

21. Any mother of a child or children under the age of fourteen (14) years, whose husband is dead, and who is unable to support it or them and maintain her home, may present a written application or petition for relief to the County Commissioners of the county wherein she resides, or to the Supervisors of City Charities of Baltimore City. Such application or petition shall be verified in such manner and shall contain such information as the said County Commissioners or Supervisors of City Charities of Baltimore City may prescribe.

The child or children for whose benefit the relief is granted must be living with the mother of such child or children. The relief shall be granted only when, in the absence of such relief, the mother would be required to work regularly away from her home and children, and when, by means of such relief she will be able to remain at home with her children, except, that she may be absent for work a definite number of days each week, to be specified in the order giving relief, when such work can be done by her without the sacrifice of health or the neglect of home and children.

A mother shall not receive such relief who is the owner of real property or personal property other than the household goods. A mother shall not receive such relief who has not resided in the county where the application is made, or in the City of Baltimore, at least three years before making such application. Whenever any child shall arrive at the age of fourteen (14) years, the relief granted to the mother for such child shall cease; provided, that if a child of fourteen (14) years of age be ill or is incapacitated for work, the mother shall receive the funds for its care, during such illness or incapacity for work, until such child is sixteen years of age. It shall be the duty of the Supervisors of City Charities of Baltimore City and the County Commissioners of the respective counties to investigate every application for relief made in Baltimore City or in any of the counties, respectively, to hear all witnesses for applicants and to carry out the provisions of this sub-title.