

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 [and the Department of Mental Hygiene] of such determination, and shall notify the superintendent of the State hospital for the insane or Rosewood State Training School, and the counties aforesaid shall thereafter treat and regard such patient as of the county according to the determination of the [State Comptroller] *Department of Mental Hygiene*, and if the [State Comptroller] *Department of Mental Hygiene* 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, or by the State for treatment and maintenance for any insane person in the State [hospitals for the insane and Rosewood State Training School] *institution under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mental Hygiene* shall be a charge against the estate of such person as provided in Section 5.

ARTICLE 16

45. When such petition is filed, any judge of the circuit court referred to in Section 44, if satisfied from examination that the facts set forth in the petition are true, and that the said drunkard has been a resident of the county or of Baltimore city for six months next preceding the application, and that such drunkard of his own free will desires to take such treatment, shall send such habitual drunkard to some institution for the cure of drunkenness; provided, said institution is located in the State of Maryland, and that the managers of such institution will agree to treat such patient for a [sum of] *cost to the county of a sum* not to exceed one hundred and *twenty-five dollars per annum*; but such court shall not be compelled to send such habitual drunkard to any institution making a lower bid than the sum herein specified, unless in their judgment the best interest of such drunkard shall be promoted thereby; and the said judge of the circuit court shall thereupon make an order that the expense of such treatment be paid out of the treasury of the county or the city of Baltimore, as the case may be, in the same manner that other claims against such county or city of Baltimore for the administration of justice are paid; provided, that no county or city of Baltimore shall be required to send the same habitual drunkard to any institution for the medical treatment of drunkenness a second time at its expense.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the several Boards of County Commissioners, the County Councils, and the Department of Public Welfare in Baltimore City, as the case may be, are authorized and directed after the effective date of this Act to collect and account for all monies as due to them respectively pursuant to the sections contained in this Act prior to its enactment, as if it had not been enacted.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after July 1, 1958, the Department of Mental Hygiene is authorized and directed to adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as in its judgment and discretion will progressively and effectively bring the provisions of this Act into full effect, within a minimum of inconvenience to State and local offices, agencies and officials, during the year begin-