

CHAPTER 104

ALCOHOLISM STUDY COMMISSION

H. F. 288

AN ACT relating to alcoholics and alcoholism, providing for the creation of a state commission to study and disseminate information on alcoholism; to develop a program of prevention and rehabilitation through research, education and treatment in cooperation with existing agencies and facilities; to encourage the formation of alcoholic information centers in the various counties of the state to work with the state commission and to perform such duties at the local level to help carry out the purposes of this Act, and to provide for an appropriation.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. 1. "Alcoholic" shall mean any person who chronically
2 and habitually uses alcoholic beverages to the extent that he has
3 lost the power of self-control with respect to the use of such bever-
4 ages, or while chronically or habitually under the influence of alcoholic
5 beverages endangers public morals, health, safety, or welfare;

6 2. "Commission" shall mean the Iowa commission on alcoholism.

7 3. "Alcoholism" shall mean the pathological condition attendant
8 upon the excessive and habitual use of alcoholic beverages.

1 SEC. 2. There is hereby established, within the state department
2 of health, the Iowa commission on alcoholism and there is hereby
3 appropriated to the state board of regents for the psychopathic hos-
4 pital at Iowa City, Iowa to further the research studies of alcoholism,
5 the sum of twenty-five thousand (25,000) dollars out of the funds
6 of the liquor control commission. The commission shall consist of
7 the following members: The commissioner of public health and eight
8 (8) other members to be appointed by the governor, at least two of
9 whom shall be physicians, one a member of the general assembly,
10 one a representative of industry, one an attorney, one a member of
11 the clergy, and two recovered alcoholics.

1 SEC. 3. The terms of office for each appointive member of the
2 commission shall be four (4) years and each member shall be eligible
3 for reappointment at the discretion of the governor when the term
4 of the commission member expires. Upon this act taking effect the
5 governor shall appoint four (4) members to two (2) year terms and
6 four (4) members to four (4) year terms, such that every two (2)
7 years one-half (1/2) of the membership of the commission shall have
8 terms which shall expire.

9 There is hereby established an advisory committee to the commis-
10 sion, which shall consist of the superintendent of public instruction,
11 the chairman of the state board of social welfare, the director of
12 mental health, the chairman of the liquor control commission, the
13 dean of medicine at the state university of Iowa, the medical director
14 of the state psychopathic hospital at the state university of Iowa
15 and the director of alcoholic studies at the state university of Iowa,
16 or their designated representatives, who separately or together shall
17 willingly render advice and assistance to the commission upon request.

1 SEC. 4. The commission shall select one of its members as chair-
2 man. It shall meet quarterly and at such other times as the chairman
3 shall issue a call therefor. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

4 The members shall receive no additional compensation but shall be
 5 allowed their actual and necessary traveling expenses when engaged
 6 in the discharge of their official duties as members of the commission,
 7 paid as other state officers are paid, from funds available to the
 8 commission as provided under section eight (8).

1 SEC. 5. The commission shall:

2 1. Study alcoholism and its problems, including methods and facili-
 3 ties available for the care, custody, detention, treatment, employment,
 4 and rehabilitation of resident alcoholics;

5 2. Promote meetings and programs for the discussion of alcoholism
 6 or any of its aspects, disseminate information on the subject of alco-
 7 holism for the guidance and assistance of individuals, courts, and
 8 public or private agencies for the prevention of alcoholism, and inform
 9 and educate the general public on problems of alcoholism, its preven-
 10 tion and treatment, to the end that alcoholism may be prevented and
 11 that persons suffering from alcoholism may be disposed to seek
 12 available treatment;

13 3. Make every effort to evaluate and assess the program from
 14 its inception;

15 4. Refer for examination, diagnosis, guidance and treatment in-
 16 sofar as funds and facilities permit, any resident of the state coming
 17 to the commission of his own volition for advice and guidance;

18 5. Establish, insofar as possible, local alcoholic commissions which
 19 would perform the same duties as the state alcoholic commission;

20 6. Recommend the establishment of policies and rules governing
 21 the acceptance, care, and treatment of alcoholics.

22 7. Employ such assistants as may be necessary.

23 8. Report to the governor and the legislature biennially incorporat-
 24 ing such recommendations as it may deem advisable.

1 SEC. 6. The records of the commission shall not be open to the
 2 public, but shall be available to all participating agencies upon request
 3 of the agencies.

1 SEC. 7. The commission may contract for such educational, re-
 2 search, casework, institutional and medical facilities, personnel and
 3 services of public or private agencies as may be necessary to carry
 4 out the provisions of this Act. It may accept for training under its
 5 direction such medical, technical, and clinical personnel as may be
 6 desirable.

1 SEC. 8. It may furnish grants from its available funds to private
 2 or public treatment centers and institutions to further the treatment
 3 of alcoholics and to carry out the provisions of this Act. The com-
 4 mission may accept funds, property, or services from any source,
 5 and all revenue received by the commission in any manner including
 6 gifts, grants in aid, reimbursement, or sale of articles or services
 7 is hereby appropriated and shall be used in carrying out the provi-
 8 sions of this Act. Expenditure of any funds available to the commis-
 9 sion shall be made upon vouchers signed by the chairman or the
 10 executive director of the committee.

Approved May 12, 1961.