

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A BOARD OF STATE CHARITIES AND TO DEFINE THE DUTIES OF THE SAME.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,* That the governor,
2 with the advice and consent of the executive council, shall, on the first Monday of May, after the
3 passage of this act, appoint five persons who shall constitute a board of state charities, one of
4 whom shall hold his office for the term of one year, one for two years, and one for three years, one
5 for four years, and one for five years, from the first Monday in May, the term of each to be fixed
6 by the governor, in making the appointments, and all appointments made thereafter, shall be
7 made as herein provided for, by the governor and executive council; those to fill vacancies caused
8 by the expiration of term of office to be for five years, and those appointed to fill vacancies caused
9 by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be the residue of the term rendered thus vacant, and no
10 two of said commissioners shall reside in the same congressional district.

SEC. 2. Before entering upon the discharge of the duties of their office, each commissioner
2 shall take and subscribe the constitutional oath of office, before any officer authorized to adminis-
3 ter oaths, which oath shall be filed with the secretary of state.

SEC. 3. Said board shall be furnished by the secretary of state, with office room, books, blanks,
2 and stationery necessary for the performance of the duties herein imposed, and they shall have a
3 permanent office at Des Moines.

SEC. 4. Said board shall hold an annual meeting at their office in Des Moines, on the first
2 Wednesday of October, and shall also hold other meetings, at least once in each quarter, during
3 each year, at their said office, unless the board shall by resolution, otherwise determine.

SEC. 5. Said board shall, at each annual meeting, appoint one of their number president, and
2 shall at such meeting, appoint a secretary, who shall not be a member of said board. Said sec-
3 retary shall hold his office during the pleasure of said board, and his duties shall be defined and

11 large; said report shall be accompanied with a full and accurate report of the salaries received
12 and expenses incurred by the board of commissioners and secretary since the last preceding
13 report, and on their recommendation the governor shall have power to make removals.

SEC. 9. Said board, or such commissioners as may be specially selected by said board therefor,
2 shall make any special investigation into any alleged abuses in the management, conduct or
3 affairs of any of the institutions which by this act are authorized to visit, whenever the governor
4 shall so direct, and shall promptly report to him the result upon the conclusion of such investiga-
5 tion, and whenever any abuses or improper treatment of those confined or residing in any of such
6 institutions, or management of the affairs of said institutions, shall come to the knowledge of
7 said commissioners, or any of them, which in their opinion requires immediate attention or
8 redress. they shall forthwith report the facts of such treatment to the governor, with such recom-
9 mendations for the correction of the same as they may deem proper.

SEC. 10. Each of said commissioners and their secretary, while engaged in the performance of
2 their duties under this act, are severally hereby authorized to administer oaths; and said board,
3 and any commissioner and said secretary, so engaged are severally hereby authorized to examine
4 any person or persons in relation to the subject matter included in this act, and for that purpose
5 shall have power to issue subpoenas; and in case any person so subpoenaed shall refuse or neglect
6 to attend in compliance with said process, or being in attendance shall refuse to answer fully
7 such legitimate questions as may be put to him respecting the matters under investigation, or
8 refuse to produce any book or paper in his possession or under his control, he shall be guilty of
9 contempt, and said board, or any commissioner or secretary so engaged as aforesaid shall have,
10 and are hereby given authority to issue their warrant to any peace officer or any other person,
11 directing such officer or person to take said party so refusing before a judge of a court of record,
12 who shall hear and determine the matter; and if said judge shall find said person to have wilfully
13 disobeyed the said subpoena, or to have wilfully refused to answer such legitimate question, or
14 to produce such book or paper, said judge shall proceed as though said contempt was committed
15 upon process by him issued or in his presence, and is hereby directed and authorized to make
16 and enforce such order and judgment as he may deem proper in substantial accordance with
17 sections 3493 and 3494 of chapter 14, title xx. of Code, relating to contempt, and the said order
18 and judgment may be renewed on *certiorari*, as in said chapter 15 provided.

SEC. 11. Each commissioner shall be entitled to receive an annual compensation for time and
2 services, of one hundred dollars, which sum, together with the actual expense of each commis-
3 sioner while engaged in the performance of the duties of his office, on being made out and veri-
4 fied by the affidavit of said commissioner, and also the actual and necessary expense of the secre-

5 tary, and any other necessary expense of the board not herein otherwise provided for, after the
6 same shall have been submitted to and approved by said board, at a regular meeting, and certified
7 by said board, shall be paid upon the warrant of the auditor of state, out of any money not other-
8 wise appropriated. The salary of the secretary shall be paid quarterly, upon the warrant of the
9 state issued therefor.

SEC. 12. It shall be unlawful for any commissioner or said secretary, or any person acting for
2 said board or officially connected therewith, to be interested pecuniarily, either directly or indi-
3 rectly, in building, repairing or furnishing of the institutions or grounds, which by this act said
4 board is authorized to visit, and every person violating the provisions of this section shall, on
5 conviction thereof, be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment
6 in the county jail not exceeding ten days.