

1914

## c 289 Female Refuges Act

Ontario

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## CHAPTER 289.

## An Act respecting Industrial Refuges for Females.

**HIS MAJESTY**, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as *The Female Refuges Act*. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 1.

Interpretation. 2. In this Act,

"Industrial Refuge." (a) "Industrial Refuge" shall mean an institution for the care of females, designated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council as an institution to which females may be committed under this Act;

"Inspector." Rev. Stat. c. 801. (b) "Inspector" shall mean the Inspector designated by the Minister under *The Prisons and Public Charities Inspection Act*, to whom is assigned the duty of inspecting institutions under this Act;

"Minister." (c) "Minister" shall mean the member of the Executive Council charged for the time being with the administration of this Act;

"Superintendent." (d) "Superintendent" shall mean the matron or other person in charge of such institution. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 2.

Commitment or transfer of sentenced females to industrial refuges. 3.—(1) Any female, between the ages of fifteen and thirty-five years, sentenced or liable to be sentenced to imprisonment in a common gaol by a police magistrate may be committed to an industrial refuge; and any such female undergoing imprisonment in a common gaol including imprisonment for default of payment of a fine may be transferred by order of a police magistrate or of the Inspector to an industrial refuge to be there detained for an indefinite period not exceeding five years.

And of inmates of industrial schools. (2) An inmate of an industrial school for girls may in like manner be transferred to and detained in an industrial refuge.

Religion of inmates. (3) No Protestant female shall be committed or transferred under this Act to a Roman Catholic institution and no Roman Catholic female shall be committed or transferred to a Protestant institution. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 3.

4. A correct record of the conduct of the inmates of an industrial refuge shall be kept with a view to permitting any inmate to be released on parole by the Inspector. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 4. Record of conduct.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor may at any time order that any person who has been committed or transferred to an industrial refuge shall be discharged. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 5. Discharge by order of Lieutenant-Governor.

6. The Inspector may direct the removal of any inmate who proves unmanageable or incorrigible from an industrial refuge to a common gaol or to The Andrew Mercer Ontario Reformatory for Females. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 6. Transfer to gaol or Reformatory.

7. Any female bailiff to whom the warrant of the police magistrate or the Inspector is directed may convey to the industrial refuge named in the warrant the person named therein and deliver her to the Superintendent. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 7. Female bailiff to make transfer.

8. An inmate who escapes from an industrial refuge may be again arrested without any warrant by any peace officer and returned to the refuge. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 8. Recapture of escaped inmate.

9. No inmate shall be discharged from an industrial refuge if she has syphilitic or other venereal disease or is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease or has any acute or dangerous illness, but she shall remain in the industrial refuge until a legally qualified medical practitioner on the staff of the refuge gives a written certificate that such inmate has fully recovered from the disease or illness; and any inmate remaining from any such cause in the industrial refuge shall continue to be under its discipline and control. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 9. Detention of inmates if labouring under certain diseases.

10. Where a legally qualified medical practitioner, having the care of the health of the inmates of an industrial refuge, certifies that an inmate on account of natural imbecility is so feeble-minded as to render it probable that she would be unable to take care of herself if discharged from the refuge, she shall not be discharged until such medical practitioner, with the approval of the Inspector, orders her discharge. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 10. Special provision for detention of feeble-minded inmates.

11. No person shall be committed to an industrial refuge without the consent of the Superintendent. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 11. Consent of superintendent to committal.

12. Every industrial refuge shall be a house of correction for the purposes of *The Prisons and Reformateries Act of Canada*. 3-4 Geo. V. c. 79, s. 12. Refuges to be houses of correction. R.S.C. c. 148, s. 80.