

## No. 508

**TRAINING SCHOOL—MONTANA STATE TRAINING  
SCHOOL**

**Held: Montana State Training School, designed for the training and detention of epileptics and feeble-minded minors and adults. Hence, a five year old child may be admitted to said school.**

November 14, 1942.

Mr. Howard Griffin, President  
Montana State Training School  
Boulder, Montana

Dear Mr. Griffin:

You have asked this office if a child five years old may be admitted to the Montana State Training School.

Chapter 130, Volume I, Revised Codes of Montana, 1935, is the chapter dealing with the admission of persons to the Montana State Training School. Section 1474, contained therein, reads:

“There is hereby established at Boulder, Montana, in connection with and under the control of the Montana School for the deaf and blind, a Montana training school for feeble-minded persons, for the training and detention of epileptics and feeble-minded minors and adults; and said unfortunates are to be admitted to said institution and cared for therein as provided in this act.”

Section 1483, also contained in Chapter 130, provides the chapter is merely supplemental to and not amendatory of Section 1464, Revised Codes of Montana, 1935. Section 1464 regulates admission of feeble-minded persons in the school for the deaf and blind and in turn makes reference to Section 1461 where it is provided only persons between the ages of six and twenty-one years shall be admitted to the school for the deaf and blind. In order to avoid any possible conflict between the sections it is well to observe that Section 1474 established a school—the Montana State Training School—separate and distinct from the school for the deaf and blind.

Section 1474, special legislation regulating the State Training School, provides both minors and adults are admissible. The words “minors and adults” are defined by Section 5673, Revised Codes of Montana, 1935:

“Minors are: 1. Males under twenty-one years of age; 2. Females under eighteen years of age. All other persons are adults.”

It is therefore my opinion the Montana State Training School is designed for the training and detention of epileptics and feeble-minded minors and adults. Hence, a five-year-old child may be admitted to said school.

Sincerely yours,

R. V. BOTTOMLY  
Attorney General