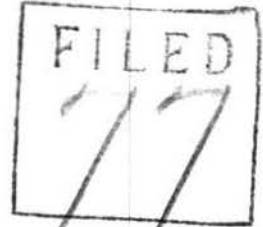


Recipient of Blind Pension
may request his name stricken
from the Blind Pension Roll

March 17th, 1939.



Mrs. Mary E. Ryder,
Executive Director,
Missouri Commission For The Blind,
3630 Grandel Square,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Mrs. Ryder:

This will acknowledge receipt
of your request for an opinion under date of
March 13th, 1939.

You state that many persons on
the blind pension roll that were 70 years of
age or over, and who were able to qualify under
the State Social Security Act, were placed on the
old age assistance roll, when during the last
quarter of 1938 the blind pension funds were
exhausted. Now, some of these persons desire to
remain on the old age assistance roll, and by
written request to the Missouri Commission for the
Blind, they instruct the Commission to strike their
names from the roll. You inquire if this may be
done.

The Blind Pension Act was created
for the purpose of aiding the deserving blind.
Pensions are mainly designed to assist the pen-
sioner in providing for his daily wants. A
pension is not a matter of contract and is not
founded upon any legal liability. No person has
a legal vested right to a pension, it is merely
a gratuity. It is not compulsory that a person
on the roll receive a pension if he chooses to
refuse same. Anyone may, at any time, for any
reason, withdraw his name from the roll.

Mrs. Mary E. Ryder

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March 17th, 1939

In reply to your request,
it is the opinion of this department that if the
Commission is in receipt of a written request
from any person on the Blind Pension Roll,
requesting their name be stricken from the roll,
that said request is sufficient to strike his
name from the Blind Pension Roll.

Very truly yours,

AUBREY R. HAMMETT, JR.,
Assistant Attorney General.

APPROVED:

J. E. TAYLOR
(Acting) Attorney General.

ARH Jr/RV