

Reported Recommending
Ind. Postponed
Passed House
Failed to Pass House.....
Passed Senate
Failed to Pass Senate.....

House File 219

February 6, 1947.
Passed on File.

By BOARD OF CONTROL.

A BILL FOR

An Act to provide a psychiatrist to supervise the care of patients in the mental institutions under the board of control.

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

1 Section 1. Chapter two hundred seventeen (217), Code
2 1946, is amended by adding thereto the following:

3 "The board of control shall employ a qualified psychi-
4 atrist who shall be experienced in the management of mental
5 institutions and who shall serve during the pleasure of the
6 board and be responsible solely to said board. He shall have
7 general supervision of the state hospitals for the insane at
8 Cherokee, Independence, Mt. Pleasant, and Clarinda, the feeble-
9 minded institution at Glenwood, and the hospital for epileptics
10 at Woodward. He shall advise the superintendents and cause
11 them to carry out the proper treatment and practices for the
12 rehabilitation and cure of the mental patients in said hospitals
13 and institutions.

14 "Such psychiatrist shall receive such annual salary as
15 shall be approved by the board of control."

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 219

The purpose of this bill is to give the present board of control proper and capable employees to take care of and carry out their duties to the four mental institutions and the two feeble minded institutions.

A qualified psychiatrist with experience can be obtained to work with and direct a uniformly planned program for the treatment and cure of mental diseases, cooperating with the present heads of these institutions. Additional help and encouragement will be welcomed by the superintendents. This does not take away or restrict their responsibility or importance in their own institution. This is part of the program to cure and rehabilitate mental patients. They will have to meet salary requirements in competition with other states and the veterans' administration and any salary that this legislature might set would not be flexible, and might handicap them in securing a good man.

The committee believes that if given proper equipment a psychiatrist, vocational and occupational experts properly staffed with physicians and nurses that the present board of control can do the job and there is no need for a radical change.