

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

Senate File 170

January 31, 1947.
Passed on File.

By KNUDSON and DOUD.

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend chapter two hundred twenty-nine (229), Code 1946, relating to the commitment and discharge of insane persons.

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

1 Section 1. Section two hundred twenty-nine point one
2 (229.1), Code, 1946, is hereby amended by adding the follow-
3 ing:
4 "Provided, however, that application for admission may
5 be made on behalf of a person by his attending physician and
6 another physician experienced in the treatment of mental
7 diseases, for a temporary commitment for observation, exam-
8 ination, diagnosis and treatment, which commitment shall
9 not be for a period of more than thirty (30) days and only
10 after the written consent of said person. The application
11 shall be made to the superintendent of the state hospital in
12 the district in which the county of his residence is located.
13 Said application shall not be accepted by the superintendent
14 if by doing so it will result in an over-crowded condition
15 or if adequate facilities are not available. At the expira-
16 tion of the commitment period, the superintendent shall make

17 a certified report of the findings as to the mental illness
18 of said applicant, one copy to the attending physician filing
19 the application and if said report finds that said person is
20 insane and in need of treatment, a copy shall be sent to the
21 commission of insanity of the county in which the applicant
22 is a resident.”.

1 Sec. 2. Chapter two hundred twenty-nine (229), Code,
2 1946, is hereby amended by adding the following section:

3 “Any citizen of the state may make a voluntary personal
4 application for admission to a state hospital for the purpose
5 of securing observation, examination, diagnosis, and treatment
6 for mental illness. Such application shall be made in writing
7 on forms prepared under the direction of the Board of Control
8 and shall include an agreement by the applicant that he will
9 abide by the rules and regulations of the hospital and will
10 give three days notice in writing before demanding his dis-
11 charge. No applicant shall be accepted if the hospital does
12 not have adequate facilities available or if the acceptance
13 would result in an over-crowded condition. The applicant may
14 apply for his discharge by giving or causing to be given
15 three days notice in writing of his desire to be discharged,
16 and not later than three days after said notice is given, the
17 superintendent shall discharge said applicant unless other-
18 wise directed by lawful proceedings.”.