

ASSEMBLY, No. 2227

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain psychiatric facilities to contact Division of Child Protection and Permanency if minor is to be discharged and parent or guardian is unable or unwilling to remove minor from facility.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/4/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning civil commitment to treatment of minors and
2 supplementing P.L.1987, c.116 (C.30:4-27.1 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. If a psychiatric facility, special psychiatric hospital, or
8 children's crisis intervention service determines that a minor, who
9 has been admitted to the facility, hospital, or service to determine
10 whether, pursuant to the Rules of Court, the minor is in need of
11 involuntary commitment to treatment or eligible for admission by a
12 parent or other person standing in loco parentis, is eligible for
13 discharge and a parent or the legal guardian of the minor is unable
14 or unwilling to remove the minor from the facility, hospital or
15 service, the facility, hospital, or service, as applicable, shall contact
16 the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department
17 of Children and Families, which shall take such action as necessary
18 to insure the safety of the minor.

19 As used in this section:

20 "Children's crisis intervention service" means a community-
21 based acute care inpatient psychiatric service designated by the
22 Commissioner of Human Services to provide assessment, crisis
23 stabilization, evaluation, and treatment to children in need of
24 involuntary commitment to treatment or eligible for parental
25 admission or voluntary admission.

26 "Minor" means a person under 18 years of age.

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28 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
29 next following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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34 This bill concerns minors who are being evaluated in a
35 psychiatric facility, special psychiatric hospital, or children's crisis
36 intervention service for civil commitment, and are determined to be
37 eligible for discharge rather than in need of commitment to
38 treatment.

39 Specifically, the bill provides that if a psychiatric facility, special
40 psychiatric hospital, or children's crisis intervention service
41 determines that a minor (a person under 18 years of age), who has
42 been admitted to determine whether, pursuant to the Rules of Court
43 governing civil commitment to treatment of minors (R.4:74-7A),
44 the minor is in need of involuntary commitment to treatment or
45 eligible for admission by a parent or other person standing in loco
46 parentis, is eligible for discharge and the minor's parent or legal
47 guardian is unable or unwilling to remove the minor, the facility,
48 hospital, or service must contact the Division of Child Protection
49 and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families, which
50 must take such action as necessary to insure the safety of the minor.