

SEC. 37. *And be it enacted*, That the detention of any person in any one of the places or receptacles for the insane, specified in this act, without compliance with the regulations of this act or the acts already in force, shall be a misdemeanor on the part of such person so violating the provisions of this act, or any one who has omitted the requirements of this act shall be liable for damages.

Misdemeanor.

SEC. 38. *And be it enacted*, That any person believing himself to be mentally diseased and approaching a state of insanity, and being advised by his attending physician, that such is his condition, may voluntarily commit himself to any one of the specific institutions included in this act, to be detained for the time specified by written agreement, signed by such person in the presence of a friend or relative or any disinterested person, and by his attending physician, for a period not exceeding three months, said contract may be extended by renewal; but if at the expiration of the period of contract, such person should be insane and unfit to be discharged in the opinion of the Medical Superintendent, the Lunacy Commission shall be duly notified in writing of the facts, and said Commission shall investigate the same, and, if in their opinion, such person is unfit to be discharged, then and in such case, said Commission shall be authorized to renew the contract by their own authority for one month at a time.

Voluntary  
commitment.

SEC. 39. *And be it enacted*, That no institution for the custody, confinement or treatment of the insane, whether public, corporate or private, shall be authorized to hold in confinement or custody any number of insane persons exceeding five for compensation, unless there shall be a physician in regular attendance upon such institution or house.

Limit.

Approved April 7, 1886.