

mitted or admitted to State institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mental Hygiene, not to exceed the actual cost per capita for maintenance of such persons the actual cost per capita to be determined annually between September 1 and December 1, by the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, the State Comptroller, and the State Budget Director, EXCEPT WITH RESPECT TO THOSE PATIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN OR SHALL REMAIN IN SUCH INSTITUTION FOR A PERIOD IN EXCESS OF THIRTY (30) MONTHS, THE RATE CHARGEABLE TO THE FAMILY OF THE PATIENT SHALL THEREAFTER NOT EXCEED 25% OF THE PER CAPITA COST. [The County Commissioners or the Department of Welfare of Baltimore City, as the case may be] *The Department of Mental Hygiene* shall investigate the financial condition of all such persons [hereafter to be committed under the provisions of the preceding sections of this Article to any of the institutions mentioned therein or received by the Rosewood State Training School,] and also the financial conditions of their relatives or other persons legally chargeable with their maintenance and support, in order to determine, in each case, the ability of any such person, or of his or her relatives or other persons legally chargeable with his or her maintenance or support, to make payment, in whole or in part, for the maintenance and support of such person while an inmate of any such institution. In making such investigation, *the Department of Mental Hygiene* [the County Commissioners and the Department of Welfare of Baltimore City] shall require reports of statements to be made to them by such relatives or other persons upon such forms as may be prepared by the Department of Mental Hygiene. [If the County Commissioners or the Department of Welfare of Baltimore City, as the case may be, shall determine that such person shall be required to pay for his or her maintenance and support while in such institution, or that his or her relatives or other persons legally chargeable with his or her maintenance and support shall be required to pay for the same, then, before any such person shall be admitted into such institution, they] *The Department of Mental Hygiene* shall make and issue an order [to that effect, and shall specify] *specifying* therein the amount of such payments so to be made, and the times when the same are to be made, and shall have the power to require the relatives of any such person or others legally chargeable with his or her maintenance and support, to enter into appropriate and binding agreements with respect to the making of such payments, and from time to time may modify or change the terms thereof, as circumstances may justify. *In arriving at the amount to be paid, the Department shall have due regard for the financial means or abilities of the patient or the person or persons legally responsible for such patient's maintenance and support and whenever deemed necessary, may agree to accept a periodic sum for such patient's maintenance less than the per capita cost. Upon failure of a patient or other legally responsible person to make payment or enter into an agreement to make payment, the Department of Mental Hygiene shall notify the Attorney General and he shall institute proceedings on behalf of the Department for collection.* THEREOF, WITH AUTHORITY TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS OR SETTLEMENTS OF SAID CLAIMS AS HE FEELS TO BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE.

(b) All such payments shall be made to and collected by the [County Treasurer or the Comptroller of the City of Baltimore, as