

*changed as the Commissioner, in his discretion, deems necessary, and he shall thereafter notify the governing bodies of the subdivisions affected. The creation and alteration of such districts shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary.*

*(f) He shall appoint such clerical, technical, administrative and professional assistants for the department as may be provided in the budget and approved by the Secretary.*

*(g) He shall have the power to order the release of any person he finds being held by the Department or any public facility contrary to law. If he finds any person being held by a private facility in a manner contrary to law, he shall institute proceedings to obtain the release of that person.*

*(h) He shall have the power to assign such functions as are by law imposed on him to such subordinate organizations and individuals that he deems appropriate except for those functions not delegable by law.*

*(i) He shall administer all grants, gifts, trusts or similar funds made available for departmental use.*

*(j) He shall establish programs for research and development of care for the mentally disordered which may encompass all phases of departmental jurisdictions.*

9. Open.

10. Open.

*Subtitle: Admissions, Release and Transfer*

11. *Voluntary Admission.*

*(a) Any facility licensed by or under the jurisdiction of the Department may admit for purposes of care or treatment, or both, any person over the age of 18 years who has any mental disorder which is susceptible of care or treatment and who requests admission to such facility. Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States may be admitted to a Veterans' Administration Hospital without regard to the provisions of this Section.*

*(b) No person shall be admitted under the provisions of this section unless his condition is such that he is able to understand the nature of his request for admission, is able to request his release, and is capable of giving continuous assent to his retention by the facility.*

*(c) Admission to a facility under the provisions of this section may be obtained by an informal or a formal application. Informal voluntary admission may be accomplished by a simple request for admission. A person admitted informally may leave the facility at any time between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. ~~and may not be detained against his will by the facility unless, after initial admission, his admission status has been changed in accordance with this subtitle.~~*

*(d) Voluntary admission may also be accomplished on the basis of a formal application. Such application shall be in writing, shall contain such personal data and be in such form as the Department may require. No person admitted to a facility on the basis of his formal request for admission may be detained for more than three days, except as provided in subsection (e) below, after having given*