

legal guardian. The person requesting such admission must, as a prerequisite to the admission, be able to understand the nature of the request. The admission request must be formal, written and assented to by an admitting physician at the facility. No person admitted pursuant to this subsection may be retained for more than three days, after the person who requested his admission requests his release, unless his admission status is changed pursuant to [Section 12 of] this subtitle. No person admitted pursuant to this subsection may be retained by a facility for any period in excess of one year unless his admission status has been changed after initial admission or unless at the expiration of each one year period of inpatient residence a new request is executed by a parent or the legal guardian of the patient.

12.

(a) *Grounds for admission.*—Any Veterans' Administration hospital or facility licensed by or under the jurisdiction of the Department may admit for the purpose of care or treatment, or both, any person who:

- (1) Has a mental disorder; and
- (2) For the protection of himself or others, needs inpatient medical care or treatment; and
- (3) Is unable or unwilling to be voluntarily admitted to such facility.

(b) *Application of interested persons; liability of applicant.*—A facility or Veterans' Administration hospital may admit any person who has a mental disorder; and who for the protection of himself or others needs inpatient care or treatment, or both; and is unwilling or unable to admit himself voluntarily, upon the application of any person having a legitimate interest in the welfare of the proposed patient. No liability, either civil or criminal, shall attach to any such applicant who makes the application in good faith and with reasonable grounds.

(c) *Form, contents, etc., of application for admission.*—Each such application for admission to a facility shall:

- (1) Be in writing and dated;
- (2) Be in such form as may be required by the Department; or in respect to Veterans' Administration hospitals, meets the requirements of that administration;
- (3) Contain a description of the relationship of the applicant to the prospective patient;
- (4) Be signed by the applicant, and
- (5) Be accompanied by the certificates of two physicians that the prospective patient has a mental disorder, and for his protection or others, needs inpatient care or treatment.
- (6) It may contain such additional information as the Department may require.

(d) (1) Each physician's certificate shall be in substantially the following form: