

ject to such reasonable limitations as may be imposed by the facility. All correspondence shall be forwarded to the addressee without delay and without being opened, except under the direction of the addressee.

(2) have access to telephones and shall be permitted to telephone any person who has advised the facility, in writing, of his willingness to receive such telephone communications.

(3) be entitled to receive visits from an attorney or clergyman of his choice. Each facility shall establish reasonable visiting hours for all other persons who may wish to visit the mentally retarded person.

(b) When for his or her own welfare a mentally retarded person is restricted from utilizing writing instruments without the presence of another, or when the person is restricted from receiving visitors, other than an attorney or clergyman, such restrictions shall be made a permanent part of the person's records and shall be signed by the superintendent.

35. *Civil Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons.*

No mentally retarded person in any facility shall be deprived of his right to vote, receive, hold and dispose of property unless he has been declared to be incompetent by a court in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of this Code.

36. *Penalties.*

Any person who knowingly interferes with the rights of any mentally retarded person in a facility as specified in this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for a period not to exceed two years, or fined an amount not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

37.

THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE SHALL DEVELOP A DEFINITION OF NON-RETARDED DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AND SHALL DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF DAY PROGRAMS AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE NON-RETARDED DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT BY JULY 1, 1974, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SHALL BE OPERATING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

SEC. 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, THAT NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT OR TERMINATE THE BENEFITS, CARE AND TREATMENT RECEIVED BY ANY PERSON ON JUNE 30, 1972, IN ANY PROGRAM OR FACILITY FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, AND ELIGIBILITY FOR SAID BENEFITS, CARE AND TREATMENT RECEIVED BY SAID PERSON SHALL CONTINUE UNTIL CHANGED PURSUANT TO LAW.