

BY THE COMMISSIONER OF MENTAL HYGIENE, THE STATE COMPTROLLER, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND ~~PROCUREMENT~~, FISCAL PLANNING.

(b) In the case of patients ~~[who have been continuously]~~ hospitalized as inpatients in any one or more public facilities for a period in excess of 30 months *within a five year period*, the rate ~~[to be]~~ charged ~~[to the]~~ responsible relatives of the patient, ~~[where]~~ *if* payment has been made for the first 30 months' hospitalization, shall thereafter not exceed ~~[25%]~~ 15% of the per capita cost. ~~[Continuous hospitalization shall mean and include all hospitalization where successive periods of inpatient care are not separated by absences in excess of sixty days.]~~

(B) IN THE CASE OF PATIENTS ~~[WHO HAVE BEEN]~~ CONTINUOUSLY HOSPITALIZED AS INPATIENTS IN ANY ONE OR MORE PUBLIC FACILITIES FOR A PERIOD IN EXCESS OF 30 MONTHS, THE RATE ~~[TO BE]~~ CHARGED ~~[TO THE]~~ RESPONSIBLE RELATIVES OF THE PATIENT, ~~[WHERE]~~ *IF* PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE FIRST 30 MONTHS' HOSPITALIZATION, SHALL THEREAFTER NOT EXCEED ~~[25% OF THE PER CAPITA COST.]~~ *THE GREATER OF:*

(1) *THE SUM OF ANY PROCEEDS OF APPLICABLE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH PLAN, OR PREPAID MEDICAL CARE PAID BY THE INSURER OR PLAN BY REASON OF LIABILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF OR REPAYMENT FOR THE COST OF MEDICAL TREATMENT RENDERED THE PATIENT, OR*

(2) *15% OF THE RATE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. CONTINUOUS HOSPITALIZATION SHALL MEAN AND INCLUDE ALL HOSPITALIZATION WHERE SUCCESSIVE PERIODS OF INPATIENT CARE ARE NOT SEPARATED BY ABSENCES IN EXCESS OF [SIXTY DAYS] ONE YEAR.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1972.

Approved May 26, 1972.

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CHAPTER 347

(Senate Bill 383)

AN ACT to add new Section 42A to Article 59 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (~~1971 Supplement~~), (1972 REPLACEMENT VOLUME), title "Mental Hygiene," subtitle "Financing of Mental Health Services," to follow immediately after Section 42 thereof, to establish a schedule for determination of payments required by persons responsible for maintenance of mentally retarded patients in State institutions.