

12.

(a) 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.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, NO PERSON SHALL BE ADMITTED TO ANY VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL OR FACILITY LICENSED BY OR UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT IF THERE IS A LESS RESTRICTIVE FORM OF INTERVENTION AVAILABLE WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PERSON'S WELFARE AND SAFETY.

(b) 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) 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: