

CHAPTER 534

(Senate Bill 434)

AN ACT concerning

Mental Health - Voluntary Admissions

~~FOR--the-purpose-of-providing-for-the-voluntary-admission-of certain-minors-and-lowering-the-age-by-which--certain minors--may--be--voluntarily--admitted-to-mental-health facilities,-and-permitting-legal-guardians,-as-well--as parents,-to-admit-certain-minors-to-hospital-adolescent units-~~

FOR the purpose of authorizing the voluntary admission of certain minors to mental health facilities, except when certain medical procedures are involved; lowering the age at which certain minors may be voluntarily admitted to certain mental health facilities; requiring a mental health facility to make a reasonable effort to notify a certain person of the voluntary admission of a minor under certain circumstances; and permitting legal guardians, as well as parents, to admit certain minors to hospital adolescent units.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 59 - Mental Hygiene
Section 11(a) and (g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 59 - Mental Hygiene

11.

(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}~~ 14 16 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. HOWEVER, IF A MINOR HAS VOLUNTARILY BEEN ADMITTED TO A FACILITY AS AN INPATIENT, THE FACILITY SHALL MAKE A REASONABLE EFFORT TO NOTIFY AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE THE