

and survivors insurance coverage from January 1, 1956, to June 30, 1957, inclusive, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 183, Laws of 1957 and chapter 41.33 RCW.

Emergency.

SEC. 3. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its political subdivisions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 13, 1959.

Passed the Senate February 21, 1959.

Approved by the Governor February 27, 1959.

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CHAPTER 51.

[ H. B. 81. ]

MENTALLY ILL — EXAMINATIONS OF CASE DATA.

AN ACT relating to the examination of case data on mentally ill persons; and amending section 71.02.250, chapter 25, Laws of 1959 and RCW 71.02.250.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

RCW 71.02.250 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 71.02.250, chapter 25, Laws of 1959 and RCW 71.02.250 are each amended to read as follows:

Files confidential—  
Exception—  
Record entries.

All files in these cases shall be closed files subject to examination only on court order: *Provided, however,* That this shall not apply to duly authorized representatives of the department of institutions designated by the director insofar as it may be necessary for the department to examine data, other than medical reports, to determine financial responsibility for the expense of care and treatment of the patient. Where a person is found mentally ill the clerk shall cause the following facts to be noted in his probate docket: Name and age of such person, date of order of hospitalization, place of hospitalization, date of parole and date of discharge. Where a person is

found not to be mentally ill the clerk shall cause such proceedings to be noted in an alphabetically arranged index, which index shall contain the following information: Name of person filed against, date of order dismissing proceedings, and probate cause number. This index shall be open to inspection only under court order. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the forwarding of all case histories, physicians' reports, and other case data to the state hospital or other agency in which a mentally ill person may have been ordered hospitalized.

SEC. 2. The superintendents of the state hospitals or the persons in charge of the other agencies shall allow examination of the medical reports and other data only upon court order, except when necessary for treatment or rehabilitation of the patient: *Provided*, That this shall not apply to duly authorized representatives of the department designated by the director insofar as it may be necessary for the department to examine data, other than medical reports, to determine financial responsibility for the expense of care and treatment of the patient.

Examination  
to determine  
financial  
responsibility.

Passed the House February 24, 1959.

Passed the Senate February 20, 1959.

Approved by the Governor February 27, 1959.