

CHAPTER 199

[House Bill No. 49]

CIVIL COMMITMENT AND SUICIDE

AN ACT Relating to civil commitment and suicide; amending section 9, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 5, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.040; amending section 10, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 6, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.050; amending section 20, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 8, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.150; amending section 26, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 14, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.210; amending section 28, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 15, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.230; amending section 34, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 20, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.290; amending section 35, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 21, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.300; amending section 36, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 22, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.310; amending section 37, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 23, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.320; amending section 44, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 27, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.390; amending section 72.23.070, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 as last amended by section 3, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 72.23.070; adding a new section to chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and to chapter 71.05 RCW; and repealing section 134, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.80.020.

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

Section 1. Section 9, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 5, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.040 are each amended to read as follows:

Persons who are epileptics, mentally deficient, mentally retarded, impaired by chronic alcoholism or drug abuse, or senile shall not be detained for evaluation and treatment or judicially committed solely by reason of that condition unless such condition causes a person to be gravely disabled or as a result of a mental disorder such condition exists that constitutes a likelihood of serious harm to self or others: PROVIDED, That a person shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter if proceedings have been initiated under the provisions of the Washington Uniform Alcoholism and Intoxication Treatment Act, chapter 70.96A RCW.

Sec. 2. Section 10, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 6, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.050 are each amended to read as follows:

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the right of any person to apply voluntarily to any public or private agency or practitioner for treatment of a mental disorder, either by direct application or by referral. Any person voluntarily admitted for inpatient treatment to any public or private agency shall be released immediately upon his request. Any person voluntarily admitted for inpatient treatment to any public or private agency shall orally be advised of the right to immediate release and further advised of such rights in writing as are secured to them pursuant to this chapter and their rights of access to attorneys, courts, and other legal redress. Their condition and status shall be reviewed at least once each one hundred eighty days for evaluation as to the need for further treatment and/or possible release, at which time they shall again be advised of their right to

release upon request: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That if the professional staff of any public or private agency regards a person voluntarily admitted who requests release as ~~((dangerous to himself or others or gravely disabled as defined by this act))~~ presenting, as a result of a mental disorder, an imminent likelihood of serious harm to himself or others, or is gravely disabled, they may detain such person for ~~((a reasonable length of time;))~~ sufficient time to notify the designated county mental health professional of such person's condition to enable such mental health professional to authorize such person being further held in custody or transported to an evaluation and treatment center pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, which shall in ordinary circumstances be no later than the next judicial day.

Sec. 3. Section 20, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 8, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.150 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) (a) When a mental health professional designated by the county receives information alleging that a person, as a result of a mental disorder, presents a likelihood of serious harm to others or himself, or is gravely disabled, such mental health professional, after investigation and evaluation of the specific facts alleged, and of the reliability and credibility of the person or persons, if any, providing information to initiate detention, may summon such person to appear at an evaluation and treatment facility for not more than a seventy-two hour evaluation and treatment period; the summons shall state whether the required seventy-two hour evaluation and treatment services may be delivered on an outpatient or inpatient status. The mental health professional shall also designate, at the time of the summons, from a list provided by the court, an attorney who will be appointed, if any is to be appointed, and state the name, business address, and telephone number of this attorney in the summons.

(b) The summons shall state a date and time to appear not less than twenty-four hours after the service of the summons. The summons shall state the address of the evaluation and treatment facility to which such person is to report and the business address and phone number of the mental health professional designated by the county. The summons shall state that if the person named in the summons fails to appear at the evaluation and treatment facility at or before the date and time stated in the summons, such person may be involuntarily taken into custody. Accompanying the summons to such person shall be a copy of the petition for initial detention and a notice of rights.

(c) If such mental health professional decides to summon such person for up to a seventy-two hour evaluation and treatment period, the mental health professional must file in court the summons, the petition for initial detention, and all documentary evidence. The mental health professional shall then serve or cause to be served on such person, his guardian, and conservator, if any, a copy of the summons together with a notice of rights and a petition for initial detention. After service on such person the mental health professional shall file the return of service in court and provide copies of all papers in the court file to the evaluation and treatment facility and the designated attorney. The mental health professional shall notify the court and the prosecuting attorney that a probable cause hearing

will be held within seventy-two hours of the date and time specified on the summons if such person is not released prior to the expiration of such period.

(d) If the person summoned appears on or before the date and time specified, the evaluation and treatment facility (~~shall~~) may admit such person as required by RCW 71.05.170 or may provide treatment on an outpatient basis. If the person summoned fails to appear on or before the date and time specified, the evaluation and treatment facility shall immediately notify the mental health professional designated by the county who may notify a peace officer to take such person or cause such person to be taken into custody and placed in an evaluation and treatment facility. Should the mental health professional notify a peace officer authorizing him to take a person into custody under the provisions of this subsection, he shall file with the court a copy of such authorization and a notice of detention. At the time such person is taken into custody there shall commence to be served on such person, his guardian, and conservator, if any, a copy of the original summons together with a notice of detention, a notice of rights, and a petition for initial detention.

(2) When a mental health professional designated by the county receives information alleging that a person, as the result of a mental disorder, presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm to himself or others, after investigation and evaluation of the specific facts alleged and of the reliability and credibility of the person or persons providing the information if any, the mental health professional may take such person, or cause by oral or written order such person to be taken into emergency custody in an evaluation and treatment facility for not more than seventy-two hours as described in RCW 71.05.180.

(3) A peace officer may take such person or cause such person to be taken into custody and placed in an evaluation and treatment facility pursuant to subsection (1)(d) of this section.

(4) A peace officer may, without prior notice of the proceedings provided for in subsection (1) of this section, take or cause such person to be taken into custody and immediately delivered to an evaluation and treatment facility:

(a) Only pursuant to subsections (1)(d) and (2) of this section; or

(b) When he has reasonable cause to believe that such person is suffering from a mental disorder and presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm to others or himself.

(5) Persons delivered to evaluation and treatment facilities by peace officers pursuant to subsection (4)(b) of this section may be held by the facility for a period of up to twelve hours: **PROVIDED**, That they are examined by a mental health professional within three hours of their arrival. Within twelve hours of their arrival, the designated county mental health professional must file a supplemental petition for detention, and commence service on the designated attorney for the detained person.

Sec. 4. Section 26, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 14, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.210 are each amended to read as follows:

Each person involuntarily admitted to an evaluation and treatment facility shall, within twenty-four hours of his admission, be examined and evaluated by a licensed physician and a mental health professional as defined in this chapter, and

shall receive such treatment and care as his condition requires including treatment on an outpatient basis for the period that he is detained, except that, beginning twenty-four hours prior to a court proceeding, the individual may refuse all but emergency life-saving treatment, and the individual shall be informed at an appropriate time of his right to such refusal of treatment. Such person shall be detained up to seventy-two hours, if, in the opinion of the professional person in charge of the facility, or his professional designee, the person presents a likelihood of serious harm to himself or others, or is gravely disabled. A person who has been detained for seventy-two hours shall no later than the end of such period be released, unless referred for further care on a voluntary basis, or detained pursuant to court order for further treatment as provided in this chapter.

An evaluation and treatment center admitting any person pursuant to this chapter whose physical condition reveals the need for hospitalization shall assure that such person is transferred to an appropriate hospital for treatment. Notice of such fact shall be given to the court, the designated attorney, and the designated county mental health professional and the court shall order such continuance in proceedings under this chapter as may be necessary, but in no event may this continuance be more than fourteen days.

Sec. 5. Section 28, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 15, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.230 are each amended to read as follows:

A person detained for seventy-two hour evaluation and treatment may be detained for not more than fourteen additional days of either involuntary intensive treatment or of a less restrictive alternative to involuntary intensive treatment if the following conditions are met:

(1) The professional staff of the agency or facility providing evaluation services has analyzed the person's condition and finds that said condition is caused by mental disorder and either results in a likelihood of serious harm to the person detained or to others, or results in the detained person being gravely disabled and are prepared to testify those conditions are met; and

(2) The person has been advised of the need for ~~((, but has not accepted;))~~ voluntary treatment and the professional staff of the facility has evidence that he has not in good faith volunteered; and

(3) The facility providing intensive treatment is certified to provide such treatment by the department of social and health services; and

(4) The professional staff of the agency or facility or the mental health professional designated by the county has filed a petition for fourteen day involuntary detention or a less restrictive alternative with the court. The petition must be signed either by two physicians or by one physician and a mental health professional who have examined the person. If involuntary detention is sought the petition shall state facts that support the finding that such person, as a result of mental disorder, presents a likelihood of serious harm to others or himself, or is gravely disabled and that there are no less restrictive alternatives to detention in the best interest of such person or others. If an involuntary less restrictive alternative is sought, the petition shall state facts that support the finding that such person, as a result of mental disorder, presents a likelihood of serious harm to

others or himself, or is gravely disabled and shall set forth the less restrictive alternative proposed by the facility; and

(5) A copy of the petition has been served on the detained person, his attorney and his guardian or conservator, if any, prior to the probable cause hearing; and

(6) The court at the time the petition was filed and before the probable cause hearing has appointed counsel to represent such person if no other counsel has appeared; and

(7) The court has ordered a fourteen day involuntary treatment after a probable cause hearing has been held pursuant to RCW 71.05.240.

Sec. 6. Section 34, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 20, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.290 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) At any time during a person's fourteen day intensive treatment period, the professional person in charge of a treatment facility or his professional designee or the designated county mental health professional may petition the superior court for an order requiring such person to undergo an additional period of treatment. Such petition must be based on one or more of the grounds set forth in RCW 71.05.280.

(2) The petition shall summarize the facts which support the need for further confinement and shall be supported by affidavits signed by two examining physicians, or by one examining physician and examining mental health professional. The affidavits shall describe in detail the behavior of the detained person which supports the petition and shall explain what, if any, less restrictive treatments which are alternatives to detention are available to such person, and shall state the willingness of the affiant to testify to such facts in subsequent judicial proceedings under this chapter.

(3) If a person has been determined to be incompetent (~~and the charges have been dismissed~~ without prejudice) pursuant to RCW 10.77.090(3) (~~or its successors~~) as now existing or hereafter amended, then the professional person in charge of the treatment facility or his professional designee or the county designated mental health professional may directly file a petition for ninety day treatment under RCW 71.05.280(~~(+)~~)(3). No petition for initial detention or fourteen day detention is required before such a petition may be filed.

Sec. 7. Section 35, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 21, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.300 are each amended to read as follows:

The petition for ninety day treatment shall be filed with the clerk of the superior court. At the time of filing such petition, the clerk shall set a time for the person to come before the court on the next judicial day after the day of filing unless such appearance is waived by the person's attorney, and the clerk shall notify the designated county mental health professional. The designated county mental health professional shall immediately notify the person detained, his attorney, if any, and his guardian or conservator, if any, and the prosecuting attorney, (~~shall~~) and provide a copy of the petition to such persons as soon as possible.

At the time set for appearance the detained person shall be brought before the court, unless such appearance has been waived and the court shall advise him of his right to be represented by an attorney and of his right to a jury trial. If the

detained person is not represented by an attorney, or is indigent or is unwilling to retain an attorney, the court shall immediately appoint an attorney to represent him. The court shall, if requested, appoint a reasonably available licensed physician, psychologist, or psychiatrist, designated by the detained person to examine and testify on behalf of the detained person.

The court may, if requested, also appoint a professional person as defined in RCW 71.05.020(12) to seek less restrictive alternative courses of treatment and to testify on behalf of the detained person.

The court shall also set a date for a full hearing on the petition as provided in RCW 71.05.310.

Sec. 8. Section 36, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 22, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.310 are each amended to read as follows:

The court shall conduct a hearing on the petition for ninety day treatment within five judicial days of the first court appearance after the probable cause hearing unless the person named in the petition requests a jury trial, in which case trial shall commence within ten judicial days of the filing of the petition for ninety day treatment. The court may continue the hearing upon the written request of the person named in the petition or his attorney, which continuance shall not exceed ten additional judicial days. The burden of proof shall be by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence and shall be upon the petitioner. The person shall be present at such proceeding, which shall in all respects accord with the constitutional guarantees of due process of law and the rules of evidence pursuant to RCW 71.05.~~((260))~~250.

During the proceeding, the person named in the petition shall continue to be treated until released by order of the superior court. If no order has been made within thirty days after the filing of the petition, not including extensions of time requested by the detained person or his attorney, the detained person shall be released.

Sec. 9. Section 37, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 23, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.320 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) If the court or jury finds that grounds set forth in RCW 71.05.280 have been proven and that the best interests of the person or others will not be served by a less restrictive treatment which is an alternative to detention, the court shall remand him to the custody of the department of social and health services or to a facility certified for ninety day treatment by the department of social and health services for a further period of intensive treatment not to exceed ninety days from the date of judgment.

If the court or jury finds that grounds set forth in RCW 71.05.280 have been proven, but finds that treatment less restrictive than detention will be in the best interest of the person or others, then the court shall remand him to the custody of the department of social and health services or to a facility certified for ninety day treatment by the department of social and health services or to a less restrictive alternative for a further period of less restrictive treatment not to exceed ninety days from the date of judgment.

(2) Said person shall be released from involuntary treatment at the expiration of ninety days unless the superintendent or professional person in charge of the facility in which he is confined, or in the event of a less restrictive alternative, the designated mental health professional, files a new petition for involuntary treatment on the grounds that the committed person;

(a) Has threatened, attempted, or inflicted physical harm upon the person of another during the current period of court ordered treatment and, as a result of mental disorder presents a likelihood of serious harm to others; or

(b) Was taken into custody as a result of conduct in which he attempted or inflicted serious physical harm upon the person of another, and continues to present, as a result of mental disorder a likelihood of serious harm to others; or

(c) Is in custody pursuant to RCW 71.05.~~((290))~~280(3) and as a result of mental disorder presents a substantial likelihood of repeating similar acts; or

(d) Continues to be gravely disabled.

If the conduct required to be proven in subsections (b) and (c) of this section was found by a judge or jury in a prior trial under this chapter, it shall not be necessary to reprove that element. Such new petition for involuntary treatment shall be filed and heard in the superior court of the county of the facility which is filing the new petition for involuntary treatment unless good cause is shown for a change of venue. The cost of the proceedings shall be borne by the state.

The hearing shall be held as provided in RCW 71.05.310, and if the court or jury finds that the grounds for additional confinement as set forth in this subsection are present, the court may order the committed person returned for an additional period of treatment not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of judgment. At the end of the one hundred eighty day period of commitment, the committed person shall be released unless a petition for another one hundred eighty day period of continued treatment is filed and heard in the same manner as provided herein above. Successive one hundred eighty day commitments are permissible on the same grounds and pursuant to the same procedures as the original one hundred eighty day commitment. No person committed as herein provided may be detained unless a valid order of commitment is in effect. No order of commitment can exceed one hundred eighty days in length.

Sec. 10. Section 44, chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. as amended by section 27, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 71.05.390 are each amended to read as follows:

The fact of admission and all information and records compiled, obtained, or maintained in the course of providing services to either voluntary or involuntary recipients of services at public or private agencies shall be confidential.

Information and records may be disclosed only:

(1) In communications between qualified professional persons to meet the requirements of this chapter, in the provision of services or appropriate referrals, or in the course of guardianship proceedings. The consent of the patient, or his guardian, must be obtained before information or records may be disclosed by a professional person employed by a facility to a professional person, not employed by the facility, who does not have the medical responsibility for the patient's care

or who is not a designated county mental health professional or who is not involved in providing services under the community mental health services act, chapter 71.24 RCW;

(2) When the person receiving services, or his guardian, designates persons to whom information or records may be released, or if the person is a minor, when his parents make such designation;

(3) To the extent necessary for a recipient to make a claim, or for a claim to be made on behalf of a recipient for aid, insurance, or medical assistance to which he may be entitled;

(4) For program evaluation and/or research: PROVIDED, That the secretary or social and health services adopts rules for the conduct of such evaluation and/or research. Such rules shall include, but need not be limited to, the requirement that all evaluators and researchers must sign an oath of confidentiality substantially as follows:

"As a condition of conducting evaluation or research concerning persons who have received services from (fill in the facility, agency, or person) I,, agree not to divulge, publish, or otherwise make known to unauthorized persons or the public any information obtained in the course of such evaluation or research regarding persons who have received services such that the person who received such services is identifiable.

I recognize that unauthorized release of confidential information may subject me to civil liability under the provisions of state law.

/s/"

(5) To the courts as necessary to the administration of this chapter.

(6) To law enforcement officers ~~((when requesting such information))~~ or public health officers necessary to carry out the ~~((provisions of RCW 9.41.070 and Public Law 90-618))~~ responsibilities of their office: PROVIDED, That

(a) Only the fact and date of admission, the fact and date of discharge, and the last known address shall be disclosed upon request; and

(b) The law enforcement and public health officers shall be obligated to keep such information confidential in accordance with this chapter; and

(c) Additional information shall be disclosed only after giving notice to said person and his counsel and upon a showing of clear, cogent and convincing evidence that such information is necessary and that appropriate safeguards for strict confidentiality are and will be maintained: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That in the event the said person has escaped from custody, said notice prior to disclosure is not necessary and that the facility from which the person escaped shall include an evaluation as to whether the person is of danger to persons or property and has a propensity toward violence.

(7) To the attorney of the detained person.

The fact of admission, as well as all records, files, evidence, findings, or orders made, prepared, collected, or maintained pursuant to this chapter shall not be admissible as evidence in any legal proceeding outside this chapter without the written consent of the person who was the subject of the proceeding. The records and files maintained in any court proceeding pursuant to this chapter shall be confidential and available subsequent to such proceedings only to the person who was the subject of the proceeding or his attorney. In addition, the court may order the

subsequent release or use of such records or files only upon good cause shown if the court finds that appropriate safeguards for strict confidentiality are and will be maintained.

Sec. 11. Section 72.23.070, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 as last amended by section 3, chapter 145, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 72.23.070 are each amended to read as follows:

Pursuant to rules and regulations established by the department, a public or private facility may receive any person who is a suitable person for care and treatment as mentally ill, or for observation as to the existence of mental illness, upon the receipt of a written application of the person, or others on his behalf, in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) In the case of a person eighteen years of age or over, the application shall be voluntarily made by the person;

(2) In the case of a person thirteen years of age or under, the application may be voluntarily made by his parents, or by the parent, conservator, guardian, or other person entitled to his custody. When such person is more than thirteen years of age, such application must be accompanied by the written consent, knowingly and voluntarily given, of the minor. All such voluntary applications to a public ((facility)) agency shall be reviewed by the county mental health professionals, who shall submit a written report and evaluation with recommendations to the superintendent of such facility to which such application is made stating whether treatment is necessary and proper on a voluntary basis and evaluating the reasons for voluntary commitment. Such person's condition and status shall be reviewed by the professional person in charge of the facility or his designee at least once each one hundred eighty days. A person under eighteen years of age received into a public facility as a voluntary patient shall not be retained after he reaches eighteen years of age, but such person, upon reaching eighteen years of age, may apply for admission into a public or private facility as a voluntary patient.

(3) No minor over thirteen years of age shall be involuntarily committed to a state or private facility for care and treatment as mentally disordered, or for observation as to the existence of mental disorder, except in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) The facility must be certified by the department of social and health services to provide evaluation and treatment to persons under eighteen years of age suffering from mental disorders: PROVIDED, That a physically separate and separately operated portion of a state hospital may be designated as an evaluation and treatment facility: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a facility which is part of, or a part of, or operated by, the department of social and health services or any federal agency will not require certification.

(b) A petition shall be filed with the juvenile court by the person's parent, parents, conservator, guardian, or by the juvenile court itself. The petition shall set forth the reasons why commitment is necessary and what alternative courses of treatment have been explored. The juvenile court shall then conduct a hearing, at which the person under eighteen years of age shall be represented by an attorney, to determine whether commitment is clearly in the best interests of the person sought to be committed, and that no less restrictive alternative exists: PROVIDED, That, if in the opinion of the designated county mental health professional a

minor presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm to himself or others, he may be temporarily detained for up to seventy-two hours by a licensed facility pending petition to the juvenile court for further commitment.

(c) If the juvenile court determines that commitment is clearly necessary, it will issue an order approving such petition. If the juvenile court determines that a less restrictive alternative is desirable, it may order that alternatives be followed.

(d) If a person under the age of eighteen years is committed to a state or private facility pursuant to this section, the juvenile court recommending commitment shall require a report from the facility every one hundred eighty days that sets forth such facts as the juvenile court may require. Upon receipt of the report, the juvenile court shall undertake a review of the status of such person to determine whether or not it is still clearly in the best interests of the patient that he remain in the facility. If the juvenile court determines that further commitment is not clearly in the best interests of the patient, it shall order release upon such conditions as it deems necessary.

(e) Every person under the age of eighteen shall ~~((specifically))~~ have all the rights provided for ~~((by RCW 71.05.370 and 71.05.480, except))~~ persons eighteen years of age or over under this chapter as now or hereafter amended except those rights specifically modified by this section: PROVIDED, That the juvenile court rather than the superior court shall be responsible for any proceedings. A voluntarily admitted minor over thirteen years of age shall have the right to release on the next judicial day from the date of request unless a petition is filed in juvenile court by the professional person in charge of the facility or his designee on the grounds that the juvenile is dangerous to himself or others or that it would be in the best interests of the juvenile that he remain in the facility. Furthermore, should the patient and his parent, parents, conservator, or guardian both request his release, he shall be immediately released unless the professional person in charge of the facility objects immediately in writing to the juvenile court on the grounds that the person is dangerous to himself or others and that it would not be in the patient's best interests to be released. Should this occur, the juvenile court shall hold a hearing on the issue within five judicial days and determine whether the person should be released.

(f) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the professional person in charge of the facility in which the person is being treated from releasing him at any time when, in the opinion of said professional person, further commitment would no longer be in the best interests of the patient.

Whenever a person is released by the professional person in charge of a facility under this section, said person shall, in writing, notify the juvenile court which committed the person for treatment.

(4) In the case of a person eighteen years of age or over for whom a conservator or guardian of the person has been appointed, such application shall be made by said conservator or guardian, when so authorized by proper court order in the conservatorship or guardianship proceedings.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. There is added to chapter 142, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and to chapter 71.05 RCW a new section to read as follows:

When, in the judgment of the department of social and health services, the welfare of any person committed to or confined in any state juvenile correctional

institution or facility necessitates that such a person be transferred or moved for observation, diagnosis or treatment to any state institution or facility for the care of mentally ill juveniles the secretary, or his designee, is authorized to order and effect such move or transfer: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the secretary shall adopt and implement procedures to assure that persons so transferred shall, while detained or confined in such institution or facility for the care of mentally ill juveniles, be provided with substantially similar opportunities for parole or early release evaluation and determination as persons detained or confined in state juvenile correctional institutions or facilities: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the secretary shall notify the original committing court of such transfer.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. Section 134, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.80.020 are each repealed.

Passed the House June 8, 1975.

Passed the Senate June 7, 1975.

Approved by the Governor June 16, 1975.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State June 17, 1975.

CHAPTER 200

[Substitute House Bill No. 1078]

FOREST PRACTICES

AN ACT Relating to forest practices; amending section 3, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.030; amending section 5, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.050; amending section 6, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.060; amending section 7, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.070; amending section 8, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.080; amending section 9, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.090; amending section 10, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.100; amending section 14, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.140; amending section 17, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.170; amending section 22, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.220; amending section 24, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.240; amending section 32, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.910; amending section 30, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 90.48.420; adding a new section to chapter 90.48 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 3, chapter 137, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 76.09.030 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) There is hereby created the forest practices board of the state of Washington as an agency of state government consisting of members as follows:

- (a) The commissioner of public lands or his designee;
- (b) The director of the department of commerce and economic development or his designee;
- (c) The director of the department of agriculture or his designee;
- (d) The director of the department of ecology or his designee;
- (e) An elected member of a county legislative authority appointed by the governor: PROVIDED, That such member's service on the board shall be conditioned on his continued service as an elected county official; and

(f) ~~(Four)~~ Six members of the general public appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be an owner of not more than five hundred acres of forest land, and one of whom shall be an independent logging contractor.

(2) The members of the initial board appointed by the governor shall be appointed so that the term of one member shall expire December 31, 1975, the term