

CHAPTER 145.

[S. B. 10.]

JUVENILES—TRANSFER TO STATE HOSPITAL.

AN ACT relating to the transfer of alleged mentally ill or psychopathic children from state juvenile correctional institutions to state hospitals for observation and diagnosis; providing procedures for commitment of such persons, defining terms and amending chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and chapter 72.01 RCW by adding two sections thereto.

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

New section.

SECTION 1. There is added to chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and to chapter 72.01 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Transfer of
juvenile
inmate to
state hospital
—Procedure.

A superintendent of a state juvenile correctional institution of the department of institutions, division of children and youth services, may, when in his opinion any child committed to his custody is mentally ill or psychopathic, request in writing from the director of the department of institutions authority for the transfer of such child to a designated state hospital: *Provided*, That the superintendent's written request to the director for authority to transfer shall set forth the reasons for his opinion that such child is mentally ill or psychopathic. If in the opinion of the director reasonable grounds exist for the belief that such child is mentally ill or psychopathic, the director may order the transfer of such child to a designated state hospital for the purpose of detention, observation, examination and diagnosis of such child for a period not to exceed thirty days: *Provided*, That such order of transfer shall not become effective until fifteen days written notice of such order by registered or certified mail has been given to the nearest relative of such alleged mentally ill child and the juvenile court of original commitment. On or before the expiration of such observa-

tion period the superintendent of the state hospital shall provide the director with a written report of his findings and opinion as to whether or not such child is mentally ill or psychopathic. On or before the expiration of such thirty day observation period the director may, either, file an application in the superior court of the county where such child has been transferred for observation, for the commitment of such child as a mentally ill person under the provisions of RCW 71.02.090, or file an application for the commitment of such child as a psychopathic delinquent under the provisions of chapter 71.06 RCW, or return such child to the juvenile correctional institution from which originally transferred to the state hospital for observation: *Provided*, That if the director shall make application for the commitment of such child as a psychopathic delinquent, the period of observation required by RCW 71.06.200 may be dispensed with, but the written report of the findings of the superintendent of the state hospital where such child has been observed shall be submitted with such application for commitment.

SEC. 2. There is added to chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and to chapter 72.01 RCW a new section to read as follows:

New section.

For the purpose of this act the term "mentally ill" shall have the same meaning as the definition of "mentally ill person" as defined in RCW 71.02.010, and the term "psychopathic" shall have the same meaning as the definition of "psychopathic personality" as defined in RCW 71.06.010.

Definitions.
"Mentally ill."
"Psychopathic."

Passed the Senate February 27, 1959.

Passed the House March 9, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1959.