

Commitment
after acquittal.

of exceptions, may be read in evidence, or the witnesses testifying upon the former trial may themselves be called. The jurors trying the criminal charge may testify as to the ground of acquittal. If the jury finds that the defendant committed a crime, that he was acquitted thereof because of insanity, and that he is now insane or mentally irresponsible and an unsafe person to be at large, such person shall be committed to the hospital as a criminally insane person and be confined under the provisions of this chapter; otherwise, he shall be discharged. Either party may appeal to the supreme court. The procedure on appeal shall be the same as in other cases.

Passed the Senate February 14, 1957.

Passed the House February 28, 1957.

Approved by the Governor March 8, 1957.

CHAPTER 49.

[S. B. 85]

MENTAL ILLNESS—HOSPITALIZATION.

AN ACT relating to the commitment of mentally ill persons, and amending section 28, chapter 139, Laws of 1951 and RCW 71.02.130.

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

RCW 71.02.130
amended.

SECTION 1. Section 28, chapter 139, Laws of 1951 and RCW 71.02.130 are each amended to read as follows:

Mentally ill.
Detention
wards,
counties.

There shall be set aside in each county of the state of Washington having a county hospital, such portions of such hospital as may be necessary for the detention and observation of those persons detained under the provisions of this chapter pending further proceedings. In each such hospital there shall be separate detention wards for males and females. The superior court may order the examina-

tion of such persons by medical personnel for the purpose of obtaining testimony as to the alleged mentally ill person's condition. Such observation period shall not exceed sixty days unless a jury trial has been demanded: *Provided*, That in all counties having no county hospital, the court may designate as a detention ward the nearest state hospital for the mentally ill or such other place of detention and treatment as it may deem suitable for the purpose of this chapter, and the superintendents of the state hospitals for the mentally ill so designated shall admit such persons committed thereto in accordance with the provisions of this section: *Provided further*, That liability for the cost of detention and observation in a state hospital and responsibility for transportation to the hospital and return of the patient to the court shall be upon the county of the committing court.

Mentally ill.
Examination
of patient,
county deten-
tion wards—
Duration.

Proviso.

Proviso.

Passed the Senate February 15, 1957.

Passed the House February 28, 1957.

Approved by the Governor March 8, 1957.

CHAPTER 50.

[S. B. 8.]

CIVIL PROCEDURE—EVIDENCE.

AN ACT relating to civil procedure; and repealing sections 306-310, pages 189-190, Laws of 1854, sections 399, 401-403, pages 106-107, Laws of 1869, sections 406, 408-410, pages 88-89, Laws of 1877, sections 404-408, Code 1881, sections 4-6, chapter 19, Laws of 1891, section 1, chapter 100, Laws of 1897 and RCW 5.04.020-5.04.060; repealing sections 315-320, 323, pages 192-193, Laws of 1854, sections 407, 415, pages 109, 111, Laws of 1869, section 412, page 114, Laws of 1873, sections 412, 415, 418-423, pages 90-91, Laws of 1877, sections 410, 413-421, Code 1881, sections 10-15, chapter 19, Laws of 1891, section 2, chapter 37, Laws of 1925 extraordinary session, section 1, chapter 96, Laws of 1927 and RCW 5.08.010-5.08.100 and 5.16.020; repealing sections 314, 321, pages 190, 192, Laws of 1854, sections 405, 412,