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STATE OF MAINE (F HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 108TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1472, L.D. 1752, Bill,
"AN ACT to Revise the Statutes Relating to Services for Mentally
Retarded Persons."

Amend the Bill in section 4 in that part designated "§2602." by striking out all of the first underlined paragraph and inserting in its place the following:

'As used in this Part, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of that part designated "§2603." and inserting in its place the following:

'§2603. Treatment by spiritual means

Nothing in this Part shall replace or limit the right of any mentally retarded person to treatment by spiritual means alone, through prayer, if such is requested by the person or by his next of kin or legal guardian.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out in the 2nd line of that part designated "§2612." (same in L.D.) the underlined word "advice" and inserting in its place the underlined word 'consent'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of the next to the last sentence of that part designated "§2612." and inserting in its place the following:

'The director shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 in the first part designated "§2632." by striking out all of the first sentence of subsection 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'Pineland Center, heretofore established at New Gloucester in the County of Cumberland, shall be maintained for the training, education, treatment and care of persons who are mentally retarded and may be maintained for the training, education, treatment and care of persons between the ages of 3 and 16 who are mentally ill.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out the first line of that part designated "§2632. Aroostook Residential Center" and inserting in its place the following:

'§2633. Aroostook Residenttal Center'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of the first line of that part designated "§2633." and inserting in its place the following:

'§2634. Elizabeth Levinson Center'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of paragraphs G, H and I of subsection 1 of that part designated "§2652." and inserting in their place the following:

'G. "Interdisciplinary team" means a team of persons, including at least one professional, which team is established and conducted in accordance with professional standards, for the purpose of evaluating mentally retarded clients and recommending services for these clients.

- H. "Person in need of institutional services" means a person who, because of mental retardation and other severely disabling conditions, is unable to care for himself and to avoid or to protect himself from severe physical or psychological impairment, and who therefore needs habilitation in an institutional setting designed to improve such person's ability to care for and protect himself.
- I. "Prescriptive program plan" means a detailed written plan
 outlining a mentally retarded client's specific needs for
 education, training, treatment and habilitation services, along
 with the methods to be utilized in providing treatment, education
 and habilitation to the client. A prescriptive program plan
 shall be formulated by an appropriately constituted interdisciplinary
 team.
- J. "Professional" means a person who is licensed by the State
 to practice medicine or psychology and who has had training
 and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mentally
 retarded persons.
- K. "Service agreement" means a written form in which the persons designated in section 2656 agree to the type of services and programs for and the manner of providing services to the client.
- I. "Voluntary admission" means the reception into a facility
 of a mentally retarded client who understand the nature, purpose
 and proposed duration of the admission and his right to leave
 the facility and thus to terminate the admission at any time,
 and who consents to such admission; or a mentally retarded client
 whose eligibility for admission to the facility has been certified

by the District Court under section 2657, subsections 4 and 5.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out in the first line of paragraph A of subsection 2 of that part designated "§2652." the underlined word "all"

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of paragraph B of subsection 2 of that part designated "§2652." and inserting in its place the following:

'B. With access to copies of correspondence and reports concerning the clients, in accordance with Title 34, section 1-B.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of paragraph D of subsection 2 of that part designated "§2653." and inserting in its place the following:

'D. Ensure the client's representation by an advocate
throughout the process of mental retardation services specified
under sections 2653 to 2657, provided that the client does not
refuse such representation.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out all of the 2nd sentence of subsection 4 of that part designated "§2654." and inserting in its place the following:

'The professional shall state specifically in the report whether or not the client is mentally retarded.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out in the 2nd line (first line in L.D.) of paragraph B of subsection 4 of that part designated "§2654." the underlined words "a client" and inserting in their place the underlined words 'the client'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out everything after that part designated "§2656." and inserting in its place the following:

§ 2657. Voluntary admission to and discharge from a facility

1. Recommendation of admission. If admission to a facilty is recommended by an interdisciplinary team, the prescriptive program plan shall include the following information.

A.	There shall be documentation that:
' K-	(1) The client requires treatment, education and
<-	habilitation of an intensive nature;
Ł-	(2) The client can benefit from programs at the
4	facility; and
< -	(3) Appropriate programs for treatment, education and
14	habilitation are not presently available in the community
•	or the facility is the treatment setting of the client's

B. There shall be:

← choice.

(1) Plans for preparing the client for admission,

including, unless specifically contraindicated, a pre-

__ admission visit to the facility; and

(2) Plans to facilitate, at the earliest feasible

time, the client's return to the community.

- 2. Application. If an interdisciplinary team recommends
 that a client should be admitted to a facility, an application
 for voluntary admission to a facility may be made, in a form which
 shall be prescribed by the pepartment, by the client or a representative
 of his choice, the client's legal guardian or next of kin or
 any other responsible person.
- This application shall be processed through the regional office of the Eureau. The regional office shall state that it believes that compelling needs of the client are not being met; shall state in writing the factual basis of this belief; and shall provide to the facility all available results of evaluations of the client which may be relevant, including the findings and recommendations of the interdisciplinary team. The regional office shall submit the application to the facility.
- 3. Admission. The facility shall admit the client on a voluntary basis only after:
 - A. The superintendent or his designee has determined that
 the client understands the nature, purpose and proposed
 durations of the admission; understands his right, and
 the limitations to this right, to leave the facility and to
 terminate the admission at any time; and consents to the
 admission; or

 B. The superintendent or his designee has determined that
 the client is not capable of requesting and consenting to
 admission to the facility and an order certifying the
 client's eligibility for admission has been issued by a

- C. An initial prescriptive program plan has been developed according to section 2655 and a service agreement for carrying out the plan has been executed pursuant to section 2656.
- 4. Judicial certification of eligibility for admission. Whenever the superintendent of a facility or his designee determines that a mentally retarded client is not capable of requesting and consenting to his admission to the facility on a voluntary basis, the following provisions shall govern the admission of the client to the facility.
 - The regional office, with the (A. consent of the parent or legal quardian of the client, if available, may initiate a proceeding, in the District Court having jurisdiction where the client resides, to certify the client's eligibility for admission to the facility. В. Prior to initiating the proceeding the regional office shall obtain the approval for the admission by the facility to which, it is proposed, the client will be admitted. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures and standards to be used by facilities in determining whether to approve such admissions. The regional office shall initiate the proceeding by filing a petition in the District Court. The petition shall allege that the client is mentally retarded; is in need of the treatment, education and habilitation 1.1 which are proposed to be provided by the facility; and has been approved for admission by the facility. The petition shall

be accompanied by the application for admission and such docu-

mentation as the court may require.

- The District Court shall commence the proceeding to certify the client's eligibility for admission, after the court has received the petition, application and accompanying documentation under paragraph C.
- E. Upon commencement

 of the proceeding, the District Court shall cause written

 notice of the petition and application to be given, personally or by mail, to the client who is the subject of the

 proceeding.
- At the same time, the court shall mail such notice to the client's legal guardian, if known; his spouse, his parent or his adult child; or, if none of these persons exists or if their whereabouts are unknown, to one of his next of kin or a friend.
- A docket entry shall be evidence that such notice has been mailed.
- the fourt may cause the client who is the subject of the proceeding to be examined by a professional. This professional shall be chosen by the client or his counsel, provided that the professional shall be reasonably available. The professional shall not be the same professional who performed any part of the evaluation required under 2654

or who participated in the development of a prescriptive program plan for the client.

- Shall report to the Court his opinion as to whether the client is mentally retarded and as a result thereof requires the treatment, education or habilitation provided by the facility, together with his reasons for each opinion.

 G. The client who is the subject of the proceeding may be detained by the facility pending certification under paragraph H, for a period which shall not exceed 48 hours, provided that the purpose of such detention is to observe and evaluate the client.
- H. If the District Court judge specifically finds that
 - (1) the facility has approved the proposed admission of the client
 - (2) there is no less restrictive alternative to the care provided by the facility, consistent with the best interest of the client; and
- of the services provided by the facility
 the Judge shall, by written order, certify that the client is eligible for admission to the facility.
- If the judge certifies

 that the client is eligible for admission to the facility,

 the client shall be admitted to the facility forthwith,

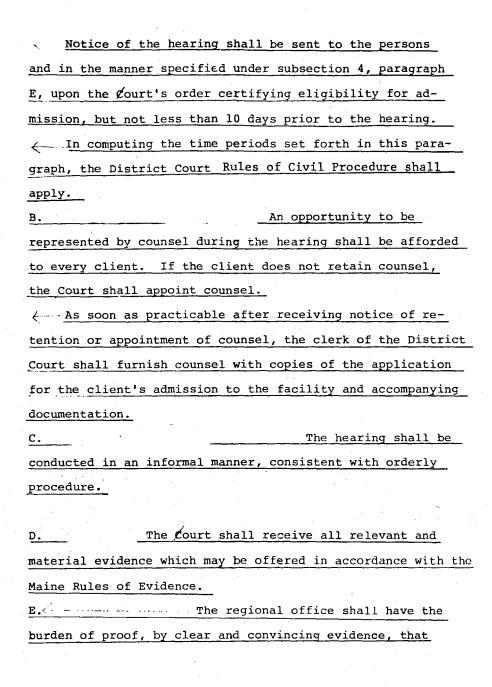
 pending the hearing on this certification set forth in sub-

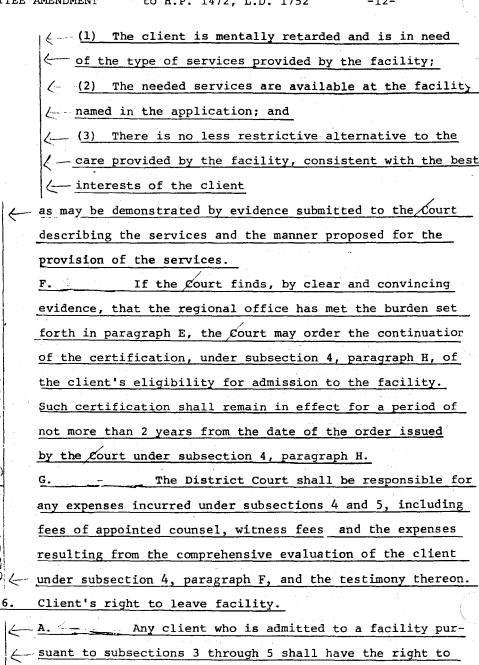
section 5.

- If the judge finds that the client is not eligible for admission to the facility, the interdisciplinary team shall revise the prescriptive program plan for the client and shall seek alternative care and services for the client, to be provided in accordance with the procedures set forth in sections 2655 and 2656.
- Certification of a client's eligibility for admission under paragraph H shall not be construed as a judicial commitment of the client, but shall empower the regional office to admit the client to the facility for treatment, education or habilitation and shall empower the facility to accept the client as a resident, provided that the parent or legal guardian agrees to such admission.
- 5. Procedures for the hearing on the judicial certification.
 Whenever a judge of the District Court has certified that a client is eligible for admission to a facility pursuant to subsection 4, paragraph H, a hearing on this order shall be held, subject to the following provisions.
 - hearing on the application for the client's admission to
 the facility, not later than 20 days from the date of the
 court's order certifying eligibility for admission.

 If the hearing is not held within the time specified
 or a continuance thereof, the court's order certifying
 eligibility for admission shall be void and the client
 shall be discharged forthwith.

The District Court shall hold a





This right shall be subject only

__leave the facility after his admission.

to the following limitations.

- as a result of judicial certification, as specified

 in subsections 4 and 5, the client shall have the right

 to leave the facility, only upon the consent of his parent

 or legal guardian, or, if neither exists, upon the consent
 of a next of kin or friend.
- the facility and has been admitted in accordance with subsection 3, paragraphs A and C, the superintendent may prevent such client from leaving the facility, only if the superintendent has determined that if the client leaves, there is a substantial likelihood of serious harm due to mental retardation. For the purposes of this paragraph, "likelihood of serious harm" shall have the meaning specified in section 2251, subsection 7. Such detention shall be followed by a report to the department and within 24 hours an application to the District Court for involuntary commitment to the facility pursuant to the procedures referred to in section 2659. The superintendent may detain the client pending completion of these procedures.
- C. The superintendent of the facility or his designee shall inform each client and his parent or legal guardian, at the time of admission to the facility, of the client's right to leave the facility and of the limitations to this right.

Provision of care and treatment.

- A. In addition to the contents of the service agreement required in section 2656, subsection 3, an initial service agreement for services to be received in the facility shall include a date, within 30 days of the client's admission to the facility, for a meeting of the persons who signed the agreement. The purpose of this meeting shall be to assess and, if necessary, refine the client's prescriptive program plan.
- B. While residing in the facility, the client shall receive care, treatment and services only according to the procedures set forth in this section and in sections 2655 and 2656.
- 8. Preparation for discharge. Whenever an interdisciplinary team finds that the client may be ready for discharge and determines that temporary placement of the client in the community is required to assist in its evaluation of the client, the team may recommend such placement and shall develop a prescriptive program plan and service agreement which shall include provisions to ensure:
 - A. That the client's money shall be adequately managed;
 - B. That the client has a legal representative, if such person is required;
 - C. That the client shall receive needed services in the community; and
 - D. That the client's parent or legal guardian, if such person is available, shall continue to be involved with the client.

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§ 2658. Temporary care

The superintendent may release the client pursuant to such recommendation for temporary community placement through the regional office.

- 9. Role of regional office. The regional office which will have responsibility for the client shall be included in the preparation of the prescriptive program plan and service agreement specified in subsection 8. The regional office shall also be responsible for implementing the client's release. The regional office shall, along with the other members of the interdisciplinary team, evaluate the success of the client's reintegration into the community and shall assist in obtaining the client's discharge when assured that the provisions of the prescriptive program plan and service agreement have been met.
- 10. Discharge. If the provisions in subsection 8 have been met and if the regional office and the interdisciplinary team so recommend, the superintendent shall discharge the client. In no case shall discharge take place later than 6 months after/recommendation by the interdisciplinary team under subsection 8.

Temporary care may be provided to any client by a facility without full compliance with the procedures set forth in sections 2653 through 2657. The purpose of such temporary care shall be evaluation, diagnosis or other clearly stated and defined therapeutic reasons. Temporary care may be provided upon application to the regiona office of the bureau by the client, legal guardian or parent, for a period not to exceed 21 days at a time and not more than 60 days during any 12-month period. Continuing placement in the facility, if indicated, shall be accomplished only upon full compliance with procedures described by this Part.

§2659. Involuntary commitment

A person who is or who is believed to be mentally retarded may be admitted to a facility on an involuntary basis after the facility has received an application and certificate pursuant to the provisions for emergency admission of mentally ill persons to hospitals under section 2333 and may be committed to a facility pursuant to the provisions for committing mentally ill persons to hospitals under section 2334, subject for the purposes of this section, to the following modifications:

- 1. Superintendent. The words "head of the hospital" shall mean superintendent of the facility;
- 2. Facility. The word "hospital" or "mental hospital"
 shall mean facility;
- 3. Plan. The words "individual treatment plan" shall mean prescriptive program plan;
- 4. Voluntary admission. The words "informally admitted patient" shall mean a client admitted to a facility pursuant to section 2657, subsections 3 to 5;
- 5. Residency. The words "inpatient hospitalization" shall mean residency of a client in a facility.
- 6. Confinement. The words "involuntary hospitalization" shall mean confinement in a facility.
- 7. Retardation. The words "mental illness" shall mean mental retardation.
- 8. Retarded. The words "mentally ill" shall mean mentally retarded.
 - 9. Client. The word "patient" shall mean client.

Sec. 5. Procedures for current residents and other clients of the Pineland Center and the Levinson Center.

1. Residents. The following procedures shall be followed with respect to each mentally retarded person who is a resident of the Pineland Center and the Elizabeth Levinson Center on the effective date of this Act and who has not been committed on an involuntary basis by a court to the particular facility in which he resides.

A. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Act, the Superintendent of each facility shall conduct a review to determine whether each resident is capable of understanding the nature and purpose of this residency at the facility and whether such residency should be continued on a voluntary basis.

B. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Act, the Superintendent of each facility shall inform each resident who has been determined to understand the nature and purpose of his residency and his parent or legal guardian of the resident's right to leave the facility.

When either superintendent has determined that a resident understands both the nature and purpose of his residency at the facility and his right to leave and terminate his residency at the facility, the Superintendent shall, with the consent of the resident, permit the resident to remain at the facility, as if he has been admitted on a voluntary basis pursuant to Title 34, section 2657, subsection 3, paragraphs A and C, as enacted by this Act. Whenever any such resident consents

to remain at the facility, the superintendent shall cause to be completed, within 120 days of the effective date of this Act, a comprehensive evaluation of and a prescriptive program plan for the resident, carried out in accordance with the applicable provisions set forth in Title 34, sections 2654, 2655 and 2656, as enacted by this Act.

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, the superintendent is not required to permit such a resident to remain at the facility if, after completion of the comprehensive evaluation and development of the prescriptive program plan, he finds that the resident is not in need of the services provided at the facility or that there is a less restrictive alternative to the care provided by the facility, consistent with the best interests of the resident. If the superintendent refuses to permit such a resident to remain at the facility and has made a finding of either of the above, he shall, within 150 days of the effective date of this Act, have completed the steps required to prepare the resident for discharge, as specified under Title 34, section 2657, subsections 8 and 9. The superintendent shall discharge each such resident pursuant to Title 34, section 2657, subsection 10, but in no case later than 330 days after the effective date of this Act.

<u>D.</u> When either superintendent determines that a resident does not understand either the nature and purpose of his residency or his right to leave and terminate his residency at the facility, the superintendent shall, within one year of the effective date of this Act, cause to be completed a comprehensive evaluation

of and a prescriptive program plan for each such resident, in accordance with the applicable provisions set forth in Title 34, sections 2654, 2655 and 2656.

If the Superintendent finds, as a result of the comprehensive evaluation and the development of the prescriptive program plan, that the resident is mentally retarded and needs the services, that the services are available at the facility and that there is no less restrictive alternative to the care provided by the facility, consistent with the best interests of the resident, he shall petition the District Court, within one year of the effective date of this Act, for certification of the resident's eligibility for admission to a facility as set forth in Title 34, section 2657, subsections 4 and 5.

The District Court shall have one year plus 90 days from the effective date of this Act to hear and decide all such petitions for certification of eligibility for admission pursuant to this subsection.

If the superintendent finds, as a result of the comprehensive evaluation and development of the prescriptive program plan that the resident is not in need of the services provided at the facility or that there are less restrictive alternatives to the care at the facility, consistent with the best interests of the resident, the superintendent shall, within 90 days of the completion of the evaluation and plan, have completed the steps required to prepare the resident for discharge, as specified under Title 34, section 2657, subsections 8 and 9.

The superintendent shall discharge each such resident, pursuant to Title 34, section 2657, subsection 10 but in no case later than 270 days after the completion of the evaluation or plan.

- 2. Clients in community placements. Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 34, section 2657, subsection 10, each mentally retarded person who is a client of either the Pineland Center or the Levinson Center, but who is residing in the community for the purpose of preparation for discharge on the effective date of this Act shall be discharged from the particular facility from which he has been placed into the community, within one year of the effective date of this Act.
- Sec. 6. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$30,000 to the Department of the Attorney General for fiscal years 1977-78 and 1978-79 and the sum of \$182,000 to the District Court for the State of Maine for fiscal years 1977-78 and 1978-79. The breakdown shall be as follows:

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF (Unallocated) \$ 15,000 \$ 15,000

DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF MAINE (Unallocated) \$ 130,000 \$ 52,000 \$ 67,000

This appropriation shall be used to pay for legal representation for mentally retarded residents of Pineland — the Levinson Center and for the professionals appointed by the District Court to evaluate these residents, in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of this Act. Any balance of these appropriations for fiscal year 1977-78 shall not lapse but shall carry forward into fiscal year 1978-79 to be expended for the same purposes.

Statement of Fact

VOLUNTARY ADMISSIONS AND JUDICIAL CERTIFICATION

The primary purpose of this amendment is to modify the admissions process for mentally retarded persons who need the services provided by the State's residential facilities, including the Pineland Center.

The amendment establishes 2 types of voluntary admissions. First, if the superintendent of the facility determines that the mentally retarded person understands the nature, purpose, and proposed duration of his admission and is able to consent to it, he may be admitted to a state-operated facility without any judicial involvement. Second, the superintendent of the facility determines that the mentally retarded person is not capable of requesting and consenting to his admission, he may be admitted to a facility only after the District Court has issued an order certifying the person's eligibility for admission.

The process for the judicial certification of eligibility is as follows:

1. <u>Superintendent's determination</u>. The superintendent of the facility makes the determination that the mentally retarded applicant for admission is not capable of requesting and consenting to his admission.

- 2. Petition filed in District Court. The regional office of the Bureau of Mental Retardation, with the consent of the mentally retarded person's parent or legal guardian, initiates a proceeding by filing a petition accompanied by the application for admission to the District Court. The petition must allege that the person is mentally retarded, is in need of the treatment and services that can be provided by the facility and has been approved for admission by the facility.
- 3. <u>Notification</u>. The District Court must notify the mentally retarded person who is the subject of the proceeding and his legal guardian and family members or friend, of the application for admission and the petition. This notification must occur upon the court's receipt of the application and petition.
- 4. Examination. The District Court may require a physician or psychologist, skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of mental retardation to examine the applicant for admission, and to give his opinion as to whether the applicant is mentally retarded and is in need of the services provided by the facility. This physician or psychologist

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cannot be a member of the interdisciplinary team which conducted earlier evaluation of the applicant.

- 5. <u>Detention</u>. An applicant for admission may be detained for 2 days pending the certification on his application, provided that the purposes of the detention are observation and evaluation of the applicant.
- 6. Certification. The District Court judge may certify that the applicant is eligible for admission after he finds that the facility has approved the admission, that there is no less restrictive alternative to the facility and that the client is mentally retarded and is in need of the services provided by the facility. This certification empowers the regional office to admit the applicant and empowers the facility to accept the applicant.

Upon certification the facility must admit the applicant.

7. <u>Hearing.</u> Within 20 days of the certification, a hearing must be held. Notice of this hearing must be mailed upon the certification, but not less than 10 days prior to the hearing.

The mentally retarded person who is the subject of the proceeding must be represented by counsel. If counsel is not retained, the Court must appoint counsel.

The regional office must have the burden of proof, by clear and convincing evidence, that the applicant is mentally retarded and is in need of the type of services provided by the facility, that the needed services are available at the facility and that there is no less restrictive alternative for the care of the applicant consistent with his best interests.

8. Court Order. If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the regional office has met the burden of proof, the court may order a continuation of the order certifying the eligibility for admission to the facility.

The initial certification shall have affect for no more than 2 years from the court's original order for certification.

CLIENT'S RIGHT TO LEAVE AND LIMITATIONS TO THIS RIGHT

Another purpose of this amendment is to state that mentally retarded persons who have been admitted to a state-operated facility, either by their own consent or as a result of judicial certification, have the right to leave the facility.

This right applies to persons whose admissions have been certified, only upon the consent of the parent or legal guardian.

This right is also limited by the superintendent's ability to detain a mentally retarded person who has consented to his admission, if he determines that there exists a substantial likelihood of serious harm due to mental retardation. Whenever the superintendent makes such a determination, he must initiate involuntary commitment proceedings in the District Court within 24 hours.

PROCEDURES FOR CURRENT RESIDENTS

The amendment also includes provisions requiring the Superintendents of Pineland and the Levinson Center to evaluate the current residents for the purpose of determining whether continued residency is in the best interests of the residents. The residents who are not capable of understanding the purpose of their residency at the facility and who are determined by the superintendent to need the services provided by the facility will have to be certified by the

court within 1 year and 90 days of the effective date of this Act.

Residents who are capable of consenting to their continued residency, shall have the right to leave at any time.

Clients who reside in the community on placement from the facility must be discharged within 1 year of the effective date of this Act.

APPROPRIATION

Finally, the amendment adds a total appropriation of \$212,000 to pay for the costs of representing and evaluating the current Pineland and Levinson Center residents who will have to be certified by the District Court as eligible for residency at the facility.

Reported by the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House. 6/29/77

(Filing No. H-875)