

**ACT 33**

A Bill for an Act Amending Chapter 56, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, Relating to Private Mental Institutions.

*Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 56-1, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, relating to the licensing of private mental institutions, is hereby amended by deleting the last paragraph thereof and by amending the third paragraph thereof to read as follows:

“If the institution is to treat persons with mental disorders, it shall be constantly in the charge of a duly licensed physician of the State to be designated ‘medical director,’ who shall have had two years’ actual experience as a member of the medical staff of an institution for the care and treatment of persons with mental disorders. The appointment of such medical director, and of all assistant physicians, shall be approved in writing by the director of health. Every such institution shall employ as head nurse a graduate of a training school of a hospital for mental disorders or a graduate of a general hospital training school who has had experience in the institutional care of persons with mental disorders. The appointment of such head nurse shall be subject to the approval of the director of health. The nursing force in every such institution shall be adequate to care for the patients under treatment therein in accordance with modern standards. Such nursing force shall be increased, whenever deemed inadequate by the director of health. This paragraph shall not apply to a general hospital making provision in a pavilion or special wards for the care, treatment, nursing and observation or temporary detention of persons alleged to be suffering from mental disorders, or to mental defectives or other incompetent persons.”

SECTION 2. Section 56-2, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, is hereby amended by amending the second sentence thereof to read as follows:

“Wherever in chapter 81, provision is made for commitment or admission to the state hospital, such provision shall be deemed to authorize such commitment or admission to any such licensed institution in the same manner, and with the same effect, and subject to the same conditions, as nearly as may be, as in the case of persons committed or admitted to the state hospital, provided that such commitment or admission is consented to in writing by the guardian or

relative having the custody of the patient, or by the physician assuming medical responsibility for said patient.”

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
(Approved May 5, 1965.) **H.B. 1170.**