

**ACT 35**

A Bill for an Act to Amend Section 81-31, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as Amended, Relating to Emergency Hospitalization of Mentally Ill Persons.

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

**SECTION 1.** This Act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure deemed necessary in the public interest within the meaning of section 11, Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

The following is a statement of facts constituting such urgency:

Section 81-31, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as amended by Act 103, Session Laws of Hawaii 1965, presently provides for the emergency hospitalization of mentally ill persons for a period of not to exceed 48 hours at "private hospitals licensed to treat the mentally ill." It does not provide for emergency hospitalization at public hospitals. The Queen's Hospital in Honolulu and the Wilcox Memorial Hospital in Lihue are the only private hospitals now licensed to treat the mentally ill. Accordingly, the salutary provisions of said Act 103 cannot be invoked in the great majority of cases requiring emergency hospitalization, notwithstanding the availability of public facilities licensed to treat the mentally ill. It is therefore urgent and in the public interest that public hospitals be authorized to receive mentally ill patients on an emergency basis.

**SECTION 2.** Section 81-31, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as amended by Act 103, Session Laws of Hawaii 1965, is hereby further amended by amending the second sentence of the first paragraph to read as follows:

"This certificate shall authorize the immediate apprehension of said individual without a warrant by said physician, or by a police officer, or by authorized personnel of a public hospital or a private hospital licensed to treat the mentally ill, and shall constitute an application for his admission to such public or private hospital for purposes of emergency examination, observation and treatment for a period not to exceed 48 hours, Sundays and holidays excluded."

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
(Approved April 11, 1966.) S.B. 56.