
DIGEST

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HB 930 Original

2016 Regular Session

Pylant

Abstract: Requires the transportation to a mental health treatment facility of a person admitted under a physician's emergency certificate to be by ambulance.

Present law provides that a person who is mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse and is determined to be dangerous to himself or others or to be gravely disabled may be admitted and detained at a treatment facility for observation, diagnosis, and treatment for a period not to exceed 15 days under an emergency certificate issued by a physician, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, or psychologist after an actual examination of the person.

Present law further provides that an emergency certificate constitutes legal authority to transport the patient to a treatment facility and permits the director of the treatment facility to detain the patient for diagnosis and treatment for a period not to exceed 15 days.

Proposed law retains present law but adds a requirement, if the emergency certificate is executed by a physician, for the patient to be transported to the treatment facility by ambulance unless the physician determines and certifies that the patient may be transported safely by alternative available means.

(Amends R.S. 28:53(F) and (J)(2))