

No. 576, S.]

[Published July 3, 1953.

CHAPTER 353

AN ACT to amend 51.09 (1) of the statutes, relating to places of commitment of inebriates and drug addicts.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

51.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

51.09 (1) If it appears to any judge of a court of record, by an application of 3 reputable adult residents of the county, that a resident of the county or person temporarily residing therein is an inebriate or * * * *addicted to the use of narcotic drugs or barbiturates* and in need of confinement or treatment, the judge shall fix a time and place for hearing the application, on reasonable personal notice to the person in question, requiring him to appear at the hearing, and shall summarily hear the evidence. The judge may,

in his discretion, cause notice to be given to such other persons as he deems advisable. The judge may, by attachment for the person, require the sheriff or other police officer to take the alleged inebriate or drug addict into custody, detain him pending the hearing (but not to exceed 3 days) and bring him before the judge at the hearing. The judge may require notice to be given to known relatives of the person. At such hearing if the judge finds that such person is an inebriate or a * * * drug addict, and requires confinement or treatment, or that it is necessary for the protection of himself or the public or his relatives that he be committed, he may be committed to the county hospital or to Winnebago or Mendota state hospital *or, in counties having a population of 500,000 or more to the hospital ward of the house of correction of such county.* At the hearing the judge shall determine the person's legal settlement, and the county of such settlement shall be liable over for his maintenance and treatment. The provisions against detaining patients in jails shall not apply to inebriates or drug addicts except in case of acute illness.

Approved June 25, 1953.
