

CHAPTER 518

AN ACT to amend 51.22 (3) to (6) of the statutes, relating to the 3 colonies for the mentally deficient.

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

51.22 (3) to (6) of the statutes are amended to read:

51.22 (3) If any person is committed to * * * a colony and training school, the department may transfer him to * * * another colony and training school or to a county hospital; and any person so transferred may be returned.

(4) The superintendent of * * * a colony and training school may grant any patient a temporary discharge if, in his opinion, it is proper to do so. The superintendent of any county hospital may, upon the written recommendation of the visiting physician, grant any patient a temporary discharge. The superintendent of the central state hospital may, if he deems it proper * * * to do so, grant any patient transferred to that institution from * * * a colony or training school a temporary discharge and release him pursuant thereto without first returning the patient to the institution from which he came.

(5) The superintendent of * * * a colony and training school or central state hospital, with the approval of the department, or the superintendent of any county hospital, with the approval of the visiting physician, may permanently discharge from custody any mentally deficient person who has been on a temporary discharge for one year or more, and who has continued to demonstrate fitness to be at large. Notice of such permanent discharge shall be filed with the committing court by the superintendent. After permanent discharge, if it becomes necessary for such person to have further institutional care and treatment, a new commitment must be obtained, following the procedure for original commitment.

(6) If it appears that the best interests of a patient of * * * a colony and training school will be served, the department may transfer him to the Wisconsin child center. The department may likewise return him to the school from which he was transferred or release him under such conditions as may be prescribed.

Approved September 29, 1959.
