No. 209, S.]

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CHAPTER 299

AN ACT to renumber 51.18; and to create 51.18 (2) of the statutes, relating to the extension of the family care program to patients in county hospitals.

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

Section 1. 51.18 of the statutes is renumbered 51.18 (1).

SECTION 2. 51.18 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

51.18 (2) The superintendent of any county hospital may, with the approval of the department, place any patient in a suitable family boarding home upon such terms and conditions as he determines, if he considers that such course would benefit the patient. When any patient is so placed, the state charges or aid provided in s. 51.08 (1) or 51.24 (2), as the case may be, shall continue during the period of such placement. The county of the patient's legal settlement shall be charged with the rates and expenses provided under s. 51.08 or 51.24 (2), as the case may be, and such charges shall be adjusted in the same manner as if the patient were at the hospital. The department may visit and investigate such home and may cause the patient to be returned to the hospital or placed in another home when deemed advisable. Such placement shall not be considered a conditional release or temporary discharge.

Approved July 3, 1957.