

No. 507, S.]

[Published June 6, 1961.

## CHAPTER 102

AN ACT to amend 325.21 of the statutes, relating to the release of medical records of patients in mental institutions.

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

325.21 of the statutes is amended to read:

325.21 No physician or surgeon shall be permitted to disclose any information he may have acquired in attending any patient in a professional character, necessary to enable him professionally to serve such patient, except only: (1) in trials for homicide when the disclosure relates directly to the fact or immediate circumstances of the homicide, (2) in all lunacy inquiries, (3) in actions, civil or criminal, against the physician for malpractice, (4) with the express consent of the patient, or in case of his death or disability, of his personal representative or other person authorized to sue for personal injury or of the beneficiary of an insurance policy on his life, health, or physical condition, (5) *in situations where a hospitalized person is adjudicated either mentally ill, mentally infirm or mentally deficient or is a voluntary mental patient in either a public or private institution and the release of medical information is necessary so that the person can qualify for either an insurance benefit or some type of federal, state or county benefit or pension for either himself or his dependents.*

Approved May 31, 1961.

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