

Chapter 71.

Published May 4th, 1858.

AN ACT to provide for the keeping of Insane Persons.

The People of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The County Board of Supervisors of each county in this State, is hereby authorized and required to audit the accounts hereafter incurred for the relief or maintenance of all indigent insane persons within their respective counties as hereinafter provided.

Expenses of insane persons to be defrayed by counties.

SEC. 2. Whenever it shall appear to the satisfaction of any County Judge, by the petition of a majority of the Board of Supervisors of any town, or a majority of the Common Council or Board of Aldermen of any city, within his county, that the public safety requires the close custody of any insane person or lunatic, having a legal settlement in the town or city represented by the petition, it shall be the duty of the said judge to make and deliver to the Sheriff of the proper county an order in writing, requiring the Sheriff to forthwith take and confine such insane person or lunatic in some proper place, as he may order and direct. Such petition shall contain a statement of all the facts in the case, so that the Judge may determine from the evidence before him whether it is safe to allow such insane person or lunatic person to be at large.—Such insane person or lunatic, when thus confined by the order of the judge, shall be subject to the direction of the said judge, and shall receive such care, attention and treatment as the judge may deem proper and necessary. All expenses incurred in confining, taking care of, or attending upon such person, shall be audited by the County Board of Supervisors, when properly certified to them by the judge having the care and direction of such person, and when so audited shall be paid out of the County Treasury.

County Judge upon satisfactory evidence, to issue order to Sheriff to confine in some proper place such insane person.

Subject to direction of judge.

All expenses to be paid by county.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 1st, 1858.