

No. 710, S.]

[Published July 12, 1951.

CHAPTER 453.

AN ACT to create 51.065 of the statutes, relating to commitment of mentally deficient persons to the northern and southern colonies and training schools.

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

51.065 of the statutes is created to read:

51.065 ALTERNATE PROCEDURE FOR COMMITMENT OF MENTALLY DEFICIENT PERSONS. (1) In all cases of mental deficiency which have been definitely and conclusively established by 2 physicians licensed in Wisconsin specializing preferably in pediatric or psychiatric medicine, whose opinions concur with regard to said mental deficiency, the physicians may, upon receiving a written request from the parents or surviving parent or general guardian of such person, issue a report on a form furnished by the judge, which report shall have appended to it the affidavit of the physicians that they have personally examined the patient; that in their opinion he is mentally deficient and a proper subject for custody and treatment; that the parents or surviving parent or general guardian of such person have requested in writing that he be committed to the southern or northern colony and training school.

(2) The report of the 2 examining physicians shall contain a recommendation that the mentally deficient person be committed to the northern or southern colony and training school, and shall be forwarded by the physicians to the judge of the county in which the patient is found, and in Milwaukee county to the district judge. In the case of minors under the age of 18 years, in all counties, the report and recommendation of the examining physicians shall be forwarded to the judge of the juvenile court.

(3) The judge to whom said report and recommendation is forwarded may enter same in the records of his court and may issue an order of commitment of the patient to the superintendent of the southern or the northern colony and training school, which order will authorize the admission of the mentally deficient patient to the specified colony and training school forthwith upon issuance. In all cases in which a parent supervises the person alleged to be mentally deficient, the court may, and in cases in which neither parent supervises, but there is a duly appointed general guardian, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem in advance of making any entry in the court records, and in advance of issuing an order of commitment.

Approved June 26, 1951.