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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL No. 1105 Session of 1977

INTRODUCED BY COPPERSMITH AND DOUGHERTY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1977

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, JANUARY 30, 1978

AN ACT

Amending the act of July 9, 1976 (P.L.817, No.143), entitled "An act relating to mental health procedures; providing for the 3 treatment and rights of mentally disabled persons, for voluntary and involuntary examination and treatment and for determinations affecting those charged with crime or under 5 sentence, " further providing for mental health review officers, for the use of statistical data, for immunity and 7 for involuntary treatment; excluding Sundays from the 8 9 computation of time; and providing for a return to inpatient status, for a stay of proceedings of a person charged with a 10 crime and for voluntary treatment of a person charged with a 11 12 crime or serving a sentence. 13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 14 15 Section 1. Sections 102, 109, 110, 114, 201 and 206, subsection (d) of section 302, subsections (a) and (c) of 16 section 303 and sections 304 and 305, act of July 9, 1976 17 18 (P.L.817, No.143), known as the "Mental Health Procedures Act," 19 are amended to read: 20 Section 102. Statement of Policy. -- It is the policy of the 21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to seek to assure the availability 22 of adequate treatment to persons who are mentally ill, and it is

the purpose of this act to establish procedures whereby this

- 1 policy can be effected. Treatment on a voluntary basis shall be
- 2 preferred to involuntary treatment; and in every case, the least
- 3 restrictions consistent with adequate treatment shall be
- 4 employed. Persons who are mentally retarded, senile, alcoholic,
- 5 or drug dependent shall receive mental health treatment only if
- 6 they are also diagnosed as mentally ill, but these conditions of
- 7 themselves shall not be deemed to constitute mental illness.
- 8 Chronically disabled persons 65 70 years of age or older who
- 9 have been continuously hospitalized in a State operated facility

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- 10 for at least two TEN years shall not be subject to the
- 11 procedures of this act. Such a person's inability to give a
- 12 rational, informed consent shall not prohibit the department
- 13 from continuing to provide all necessary treatment to such a
- 14 person. However, if such a person protests treatment or
- 15 residence at a State operated facility he shall be subject to
- 16 the provisions of Article III.
- 17 Section 109. Mental Health Review Officer.--(a) Legal
- 18 proceedings concerning extended involuntary emergency treatment
- 19 under section 303(c), [or] court-ordered involuntary treatment
- 20 under section 304 or 305 or transfer hearings under section 306,
- 21 may be conducted by a judge of the court of common pleas or by a
- 22 mental health review officer authorized by the court to conduct
- 23 the proceedings. Mental health review officers shall be members
- 24 of the bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, without
- 25 restriction as to the county of their residence and where
- 26 possible should be familiar with the field of mental health.
- 27 They shall be appointed by the respective courts of common pleas
- 28 for terms not to exceed one year, and may be reappointed to
- 29 successive terms. <u>Law-trained municipal court judges may be</u>
- 30 appointed mental health review officers.

- 1 (b) In all cases in which the hearing is conducted by a
- 2 mental health review officer, a person made subject to treatment
- 3 shall have the right to petition the court of common pleas for
- 4 review of the certification. A hearing shall be held within 72
- 5 hours after the petition is filed unless a continuance is
- 6 requested by the person's counsel. The hearing shall include a
- 7 review of the certification and such evidence as the court may
- 8 receive or require. If the court determines that further
- 9 <u>involuntary treatment is necessary and that the procedures</u>
- 10 prescribed by this act have been followed, it shall deny the
- 11 petition. Otherwise, the person shall be discharged.
- 12 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, no
- 13 judge or mental health review officer shall specify to the
- 14 treatment team THE ADOPTION OF any treatment technique,
- 15 modality, OR drug therapies or wards in a facility. THERAPY.
- 16 Section 110. Written Applications, Petitions, Statements and

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- 17 Certifications.--(a) All written statements pursuant to section
- 18 302(a)(2), and all applications, petitions, and certifications
- 19 required under the provisions of this act shall be made subject
- 20 to the penalties provided under 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to
- 21 unsworn falsification to authorities) and shall contain a notice
- 22 to that effect.
- 23 (b) All such applications, petitions, statements and
- 24 certifications shall be filed with the county administrator in
- 25 the county where the person was made subject to examination and
- 26 treatment and such other county in the Commonwealth, if any, in
- 27 which the person usually resides.
- 28 (c) Subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to patients
- 29 <u>admitted pursuant to Article II when no part of the patient's</u>
- 30 care is provided with public funds provided that the department

- 1 may require facilities to report clinical and statistical
- 2 <u>information so long as the data does not identify individual</u>
- 3 patients.
- 4 (d) No public official acting in an official capacity shall
- 5 be required to pay the court of common pleas any filing fee
- 6 which in the absence of this provision would be required upon
- 7 the filing of a petition for involuntary treatment under this
- 8 act.
- 9 Section 114. Immunity from Civil and Criminal Liability.--
- 10 (a) In the absence of willful misconduct or gross negligence, a
- 11 county administrator, a director of a facility, a physician, a
- 12 <u>peace officer</u> or any other authorized person who participates in
- 13 a decision that a person be examined or treated under this act,
- 14 or that a person be discharged, or placed under partial
- 15 hospitalization, outpatient care or leave of absence, or that
- 16 the restraint upon such person be otherwise reduced, or a county
- 17 administrator or other authorized person who denies an
- 18 application for <u>voluntary treatment or for</u> involuntary emergency
- 19 examination and treatment, shall not be civilly or criminally
- 20 liable for such decision or for any of its consequences.
- 21 (b) A judge or a mental health review officer shall not be
- 22 civilly or criminally liable for any actions taken or decisions
- 23 made by him pursuant to the authority conferred by this act.
- 24 Section 201. Persons Who May Authorize Voluntary
- 25 Treatment.--Any person 14 years of age or over who believes that
- 26 he is in need of treatment and substantially understands the
- 27 nature of voluntary [commitment] treatment may submit himself to
- 28 examination and treatment under this act, provided that the
- 29 decision to do so is made voluntarily. A parent, guardian, or
- 30 person standing in loco parentis to a child less than 14 years

- 1 of age may subject such child to examination and treatment under
- 2 this act, and in so doing shall be deemed to be acting for the
- 3 child. Except as otherwise authorized in this act, all of the
- 4 provisions of this act governing examination and treatment shall
- 5 apply.
- 6 Section 206. Withdrawal from Voluntary Inpatient
- 7 Treatment.--(a) A person in voluntary inpatient treatment may
- 8 withdraw at any time by giving written notice unless, as stated
- 9 in section 203, he has agreed in writing at the time of his
- 10 admission that his release can be delayed following such notice
- 11 for a period to be specified in the agreement, provided that
- 12 such period shall not exceed 72 hours. Any patient converted
- 13 from involuntary treatment ordered pursuant to either section
- 14 <u>304 or 305 to voluntary treatment status shall agree to remain</u>
- 15 <u>in treatment for 72 hours after having given written notice of</u>
- 16 his intent to withdraw from treatment.
- 17 (b) If the person is under the age of 14, his parent, legal
- 18 guardian, or person standing in loco parentis may effect his
- 19 release. If any responsible party believes that it would be in
- 20 the best interest of a person under 14 years of age in voluntary
- 21 treatment to be withdrawn therefrom or afforded treatment
- 22 constituting a less restrictive alternative, such party may file
- 23 a petition in the Juvenile Division of the court of common pleas
- 24 for the county in which the person under 14 years of age
- 25 resides, requesting a withdrawal from or modification of
- 26 treatment. The court shall promptly appoint an attorney for such
- 27 minor person and schedule a hearing to determine what inpatient
- 28 treatment, if any, is in the minor's best interest. The hearing
- 29 shall be held within ten days of receipt of the petition, unless
- 30 continued upon the request of the attorney for such minor. The

- 1 hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the rules
- 2 governing other Juvenile Court proceedings.
- 3 (c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to require a
- 4 facility to continue inpatient treatment where the director of
- 5 the facility determines such treatment is not medically
- 6 indicated. Any dispute between a facility and a county
- 7 administrator as to the medical necessity for voluntary
- 8 inpatient treatment of a person shall be decided by the
- 9 Commissioner of Mental Health or his designate.
- 10 Section 302. Involuntary Emergency Examination and Treatment
- 11 Authorized by a Physician Not to Exceed [Seventy-two Hours]
- 12 One Hundred Twenty Hours. -- * * *
- 13 (d) Duration of Emergency Examination and Treatment.--A
- 14 person who is in treatment pursuant to this section shall be
- 15 discharged whenever it is determined that he no longer is in
- 16 need of treatment and in any event within [72 hours,] 120 hours,
- 17 unless within such period:
- 18 (1) he is admitted to voluntary treatment pursuant to
- 19 section 202 of this act; or
- 20 (2) a certification for extended involuntary emergency
- 21 treatment is filed pursuant to section 303 of this act.
- 22 Section 303. Extended Involuntary Emergency Treatment
- 23 Certified by a Judge or Mental Health Review Officer Not to
- 24 Exceed Twenty Days. -- (a) Persons Subject to Extended
- 25 Involuntary Emergency Treatment. -- Application for extended
- 26 involuntary emergency treatment may be made for any person who
- 27 is being treated pursuant to section 302 whenever the facility
- 28 determines that the need for emergency treatment is likely to
- 29 extend beyond [72] 120 hours. The application shall be filed
- 30 forthwith in the court of common pleas, and shall state the

- 1 grounds on which extended emergency treatment is believed to be
- 2 necessary. The application shall state the name of any examining
- 3 physician and the substance of his opinion regarding the mental
- 4 condition of the person.
- 5 * * *
- 6 (c) Informal [Hearing] <u>Conference</u> on Extended Emergency
- 7 Treatment Application. -- (1) At the commencement of the informal
- 8 [hearing] <u>conference</u>, the judge or the mental health review
- 9 officer shall inform the person of the nature of the
- 10 proceedings. Information relevant to whether the person is
- 11 severely mentally disabled and in need of treatment shall be
- 12 reviewed, including the reasons that continued involuntary
- 13 treatment is considered necessary. Such explanation shall be
- 14 made by a physician who examined the person and shall be in
- 15 terms understandable to a layman. The judge or mental health
- 16 review officer may review any relevant information even if it
- 17 would be normally excluded under rules of evidence if he
- 18 believes that such information is reliable. The person or his
- 19 representative shall have the right to ask questions of the
- 20 physician and of any other witnesses and to present any relevant
- 21 information. At the conclusion of the review, if the judge or
- 22 the review officer finds that the person is severely mentally
- 23 disabled and in need of continued involuntary treatment, he
- 24 shall so certify. Otherwise, he shall direct that the facility
- 25 director or his designee discharge the person.
- 26 (2) A [stenographic or other sufficient] record of the
- 27 proceedings which need not be a stenographic record shall be
- 28 made. Such record shall be kept by the court or mental health
- 29 review officer for at least one year.
- 30 * * *

- 1 Section 304. Court-ordered Involuntary Treatment Not to
- 2 Exceed Ninety Days. -- (a) Persons for Whom Application May be
- 3 Made.--(1) A person who is severely mentally disabled and in
- 4 need of treatment, as defined in section 301(a), may be made
- 5 subject to court-ordered involuntary treatment upon a
- 6 determination of clear and present danger under section
- 7 301(b)(1) (serious bodily harm to others), or section
- 8 301(b)(2)(i) (inability to care for himself, creating a danger
- 9 of death or serious harm to himself), or 301(b)(2)(ii)
- 10 (attempted suicide), or 301(b)(2)(iii) (self-mutilation).
- 11 (2) Where a petition is filed for a person already subject
- 12 to involuntary treatment, it shall be sufficient to represent,
- 13 and upon hearing to reestablish, that the conduct originally
- 14 required by section 301 in fact occurred, and that his condition
- 15 continues to evidence a clear and present danger to himself or
- 16 others. In such event, it shall not be necessary to show the
- 17 reoccurrence of dangerous conduct, either harmful or
- 18 debilitating, within the past 30 days.
- 19 (b) Procedures for Initiating Court-ordered Involuntary
- 20 Treatment for Persons Already Subject to Involuntary
- 21 Treatment.--(1) Petition for court-ordered involuntary
- 22 treatment for persons already subject to treatment under
- 23 sections 303, 304 and 305 may be made by the county
- 24 administrator or the director of the facility to the court of
- 25 common pleas.
- 26 (2) The petition shall be in writing upon a form adopted by
- 27 the department and shall include a statement of the facts
- 28 constituting reasonable grounds to believe that the person is
- 29 severely mentally disabled and in need of treatment. The
- 30 petition shall state the name of any examining physician and the

- 1 substance of his opinion regarding the mental condition of the
- 2 person. It shall also state that the person has been given the
- 3 information required by subsection (b)(3). [and shall include
- 4 copies of all documents relating to examination and treatment of
- 5 the person which are required under this act.]
- 6 (3) Upon the filing of the petition the county administrator
- 7 shall serve a copy on the person, his attorney, and those
- 8 designated to be kept informed, as provided in section 302(c),
- 9 including an explanation of the nature of the proceedings, the
- 10 person's right to an attorney and the services of an expert in
- 11 the field of mental health, as provided by subsection (d).
- 12 (4) A hearing on the petition shall be held in all cases,
- 13 not more than five days after the filing of the petition.
- 14 (5) Treatment shall be permitted to be maintained pending
- 15 the determination of the petition.
- 16 (c) Procedures for Initiating Court-ordered Involuntary
- 17 Treatment for Persons not in Involuntary Treatment.--(1) Any
- 18 responsible party may file a petition in the court of common
- 19 pleas requesting court-ordered involuntary treatment for any
- 20 person not already in involuntary treatment for whom application
- 21 could be made under subsection (a).
- 22 (2) The petition shall be in writing upon a form adopted by
- 23 the department and shall set forth facts constituting reasonable
- 24 grounds to believe that the person is within the criteria for
- 25 court-ordered treatment set forth in subsection (a). The
- 26 petition shall state the name of any examining physician and the
- 27 substance of his opinion regarding the mental condition of the
- 28 person.
- 29 (3) Upon a determination that the petition sets forth such
- 30 reasonable cause, the court shall appoint an attorney to

- 1 represent the person and set a date for the hearing as soon as
- 2 practicable. The attorney shall represent the person unless it
- 3 shall appear that he can afford, and desires to have, private
- 4 representation.
- 5 (4) The court, by summons, shall direct the person to appear
- 6 for a hearing. The court may issue a warrant directing a person
- 7 authorized by the county administrator or a peace officer to
- 8 bring such person before the court at the time of the hearing if
- 9 there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person will not
- 10 appear voluntarily. A copy of the petition shall be served on
- 11 such person at least three days before the hearing together with
- 12 a notice advising him that an attorney has been appointed who
- 13 shall represent him unless he obtains an attorney himself, that
- 14 he has a right to be assisted in the proceedings by an expert in
- 15 the field of mental health, and that he may request or be made
- 16 subject to psychiatric examination under subsection (c)(5).
- 17 (5) Upon motion of either the petitioner or the person, or
- 18 upon its own motion, the court may order the person to be
- 19 examined by a psychiatrist appointed by the court. Such
- 20 examination shall be conducted on an outpatient basis, and the
- 21 person shall have the right to have counsel present. A report of
- 22 the examination shall be given to the court and counsel at least
- 23 48 hours prior to the hearing.
- 24 (6) Involuntary treatment shall not be authorized during the
- 25 pendency of a petition except in accordance with section 302 or
- 26 section 303.
- 27 (d) Professional Assistance. -- A person with respect to whom
- 28 a hearing has been ordered under this section shall have and be
- 29 informed of a right to employ a physician, clinical psychologist
- 30 or other expert in mental health of his choice to assist him in

- 1 connection with the hearing and to testify on his behalf. If the
- 2 person cannot afford to engage such a professional, the court
- 3 shall, on application, allow a reasonable fee for such purpose.
- 4 The fee shall be a charge against the mental health and mental
- 5 retardation program of the locality.
- 6 (e) Hearings on Petition for Court-ordered Involuntary
- 7 Treatment.--A hearing on a petition for court-ordered
- 8 involuntary treatment shall be conducted according to the
- 9 following:
- 10 (1) The person shall have the right to counsel and to the
- 11 assistance of an expert in mental health.
- 12 (2) The person shall not be called as a witness without his
- 13 consent.
- 14 (3) The person shall have the right to confront and cross-
- 15 examine all witnesses and to present evidence in his own behalf.
- 16 (4) The hearing shall be public unless it is requested to be
- 17 private by the person or his counsel.
- 18 (5) A stenographic or other sufficient record shall be made,
- 19 which shall be impounded by the court and may be obtained or
- 20 examined only upon the request of the person or his counsel or
- 21 by order of the court on good cause shown.
- 22 (6) The hearing shall be conducted by a judge or by a mental
- 23 health review officer and may be held at a location other than a
- 24 courthouse when doing so appears to be in the best interest of
- 25 the person.
- 26 (7) A decision shall be rendered within 48 hours after the
- 27 close of evidence.
- 28 (f) Determination and Order.--Upon a finding by clear and
- 29 convincing evidence that the person is severely mentally
- 30 disabled and in need of treatment and subject to subsection (a),

- 1 an order shall be entered directing treatment of the person in
- 2 an approved facility as an inpatient or an outpatient, or a
- 3 <u>combination of such treatment as the director of the facility</u>
- 4 shall from time to time determine. Inpatient treatment shall be
- 5 deemed appropriate only after full consideration has been given
- 6 to less restrictive alternatives. Investigation of treatment
- 7 alternatives shall include consideration of the person's
- 8 relationship to his community and family, his employment
- 9 possibilities, all available community resources, and
- 10 guardianship services. An order for inpatient treatment shall
- 11 include findings on this issue.
- 12 (g) Duration of Court-ordered Involuntary Treatment.--(1) A
- 13 person may be made subject to court-ordered involuntary
- 14 treatment under this section for a period not to exceed 90 days,
- 15 excepting only that: Persons may be made subject to court-
- 16 ordered involuntary treatment under this section for a period
- 17 not to exceed one year if the person meets the criteria
- 18 <u>established by clause (2).</u>
- 19 (2) A person may be subject to court-ordered involuntary
- 20 <u>treatment for a period not to exceed one year if:</u>
- 21 (i) severe mental disability is based on acts giving rise to
- 22 the following charges under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code: murder
- 23 (§ 2502); voluntary manslaughter (§ 2503); aggravated assault (§
- 24 2702); kidnapping (§ 2901); rape (§ 3121(1) and (2));
- 25 involuntary deviate sexual intercourse (§ 3123(1) and (2));
- 26 <u>arson (§ 3301)</u>; and
- 27 (ii) a finding of incompetency to be tried or a verdict of
- 28 acquittal because of lack of criminal responsibility has been
- 29 entered.
- [(2)] If at any time the director of a facility

- 1 concludes that the person is not severely mentally disabled or
- 2 in need of treatment pursuant to subsection (a), he shall
- 3 discharge the person provided that no person subjected to
- 4 <u>involuntary treatment pursuant to clause (2) may be discharged</u>
- 5 without a hearing conducted pursuant to clause (4).
- 6 (4) In cases involving involuntary treatment pursuant to
- 7 <u>clause (2)</u>, <u>whenever the period of court-ordered involuntary</u>
- 8 treatment has expired IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE and neither the
- 9 <u>director nor the county administrator intends to apply for an</u>
- 10 <u>additional period of court-ordered involuntary treatment</u>
- 11 pursuant to section 305 or at any time the director concludes
- 12 that the person is not severely mentally disabled or in need of
- 13 treatment, the director shall petition the court which ordered
- 14 the involuntary treatment for the unconditional or conditional
- 15 release of the person. Notice of such petition shall be given to
- 16 the person, the county administrator and the district attorney.
- 17 Within 15 days after the petition has been filed, the court
- 18 shall hold a hearing to determine if the person is severely
- 19 mentally disabled and in need of treatment. Petitions which must
- 20 be filed simply because the period of involuntary treatment will
- 21 <u>expire shall be filed at least ten days prior to the expiration</u>
- 22 of the court-ordered period of involuntary treatment. If the
- 23 <u>court determines after hearing that the person is severely</u>
- 24 mentally disabled and in need of treatment, it may order
- 25 additional involuntary treatment not to exceed one year; if the
- 26 court does not so determine, it shall order the discharge of the
- 27 person.
- 28 Section 305. Additional Periods of Court-ordered Involuntary
- 29 Treatment.--(a) At the expiration of a period of court-ordered
- 30 involuntary treatment under section 304(g), or this section the

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- 1 court may order treatment for an additional period upon the
- 2 application of the county administrator or the director of the
- 3 facility in which the person is receiving treatment. Such order
- 4 shall be entered upon hearing on findings as required by
- 5 sections 304(a) and (b), and the further finding of a need for
- 6 continuing involuntary treatment as shown by conduct during the
- 7 person's most recent period of court-ordered treatment. The
- 8 additional period of involuntary treatment shall not exceed 180
- 9 days; provided that persons meeting the criteria of section
- 10 <u>304(g)(2)</u> may be subject to an additional period of up to one
- 11 year of involuntary treatment. A person found dangerous to
- 12 himself under section 301(b)(2)(i),(ii) or (iii) shall be
- 13 subject to an additional period of involuntary full-time
- 14 inpatient treatment only if he has first been released to a less
- 15 restrictive alternative. This limitation shall not apply where,
- 16 upon application made by the county administrator or facility
- 17 director, it is determined by a judge or mental health review
- 18 officer that such release would not be in the person's best
- 19 interest.
- 20 (b) The director of the facility in which the person is
- 21 receiving treatment shall notify the county administrator at
- 22 least ten days prior to the expiration of a period of
- 23 involuntary commitment ordered under section 304 or this
- 24 section.
- 25 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 26 <u>Section 307. Return to Inpatient Status of Persons on</u>
- 27 Leave.--(a) Where any involuntary inpatient treatment has been
- 28 ordered under this act but thereafter the director of the
- 29 facility has placed such person on short-term leave, such leave
- 30 may be rescinded and the person returned to inpatient treatment

- 1 immediately. Such inpatient treatment shall continue as long as
- 2 the director of the facility shall deem it necessary, not to
- 3 <u>exceed the term originally ordered by the court. If, in these</u>
- 4 circumstances, the person shall refuse inpatient treatment, the
- 5 <u>court or mental health review officer or county administrator,</u>
- 6 upon application of the director of the facility, may issue a
- 7 <u>warrant directing a person authorized by him, or any peace</u>
- 8 officer, to take such person to the facility. The application
- 9 shall set forth the reason for requiring inpatient treatment and
- 10 the grounds for believing that such treatment has been refused.
- 11 (b) Where a person is involuntarily committed pursuant to
- 12 either section 304 or section 305 because the court makes a
- 13 finding that the person is a clear and present danger to others
- 14 and the person is granted leave by a facility on the condition
- 15 that the person continues to take medication which tends to
- 16 reduce the likelihood of violent behavior by the person and
- 17 where the county administrator determines that the person
- 18 consistently fails to take the prescribed medication, such leave
- 19 may be rescinded by the director of the facility and the person
- 20 returned to treatment. The person may not be detained more than
- 21 20 days without a finding of severe mental disability and the
- 22 institution of appropriate legal proceedings. The right to
- 23 rescind a patient's leave pursuant to this section shall be
- 24 <u>limited to a period ending 90 days after the expiration of the</u>
- 25 <u>period of court-ordered involuntary care.</u>
- 26 Section 3. Subsection (b) of section 402 and subsections (c)
- 27 and (f) of section 403 of the act are amended to read:
- 28 Section 402. Incompetence to Proceed on Criminal Charges and
- 29 Lack of Criminal Responsibility as Defense.--* * *
- 30 (b) Involuntary Treatment of Persons Found Incompetent to

- 1 Stand Trial Who are Not Mentally Disabled. -- Notwithstanding the
- 2 provisions of Article III of this act, a court may order
- 3 involuntary treatment of a person found incompetent to stand
- 4 trial but who is not severely mentally disabled, such
- 5 involuntary treatment not to exceed a specific period of [30] 60
- 6 days. Involuntary treatment pursuant to this subsection may be
- 7 ordered only if the court is reasonably certain that the
- 8 involuntary treatment will provide the defendant with the
- 9 capacity to stand trial. The court may order outpatient
- 10 treatment, partial hospitalization or inpatient treatment.
- 11 * * *
- 12 Section 403. Hearing and Determination of Incompetency to
- 13 Proceed; Stay of Proceedings; Dismissal of Charges. -- * * *
- 14 (c) Defendant's Right to Counsel; Reexamination.--A person
- 15 who is determined to be incompetent to proceed shall have a
- 16 continuing right to counsel so long as the criminal charges are
- 17 pending. Following such determination, the person charged shall
- 18 be reexamined not less than every [60] 90 days by a psychiatrist
- 19 appointed by the court and a report of reexamination shall be
- 20 submitted to the court and to counsel.
- 21 * * *
- 22 (f) Stay of Proceedings.--In no instance shall the
- 23 proceedings be stayed for a period in excess of the maximum
- 24 sentence of confinement that may be imposed for the crime or
- 25 crimes charged, or [five] ten years, whichever is less.
- 26 Section 4. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 27 Section 407. Voluntary Treatment of A Person Charged With
- 28 Crime Or Serving Sentence. -- (a) Whenever a person in criminal
- 29 <u>detention</u>, whether in lieu of bail or serving a sentence,
- 30 believes that he is in need of treatment and substantially

- 1 understands the nature of voluntary treatment he may submit
- 2 himself to examination and treatment under this act, provided
- 3 that at least one physician certifies the necessity of such
- 4 treatment and certifies further that such treatment cannot be
- 5 <u>adequately provided at the prison or correctional facility where</u>
- 6 the person then is detained. Such certificate shall set forth
- 7 the specific grounds which make transfer to a mental health
- 8 <u>facility necessary</u>. The correctional facility shall secure a
- 9 <u>written acceptance of the person for inpatient treatment from</u>
- 10 the mental health facility and shall forward such acceptance to
- 11 the court.
- 12 (b) Before any inmate of a prison or correctional facility
- 13 may be transferred to a mental health facility for the purpose
- 14 of examination and treatment the court shall review the
- 15 <u>certification of the physician that such transfer is necessary</u>
- 16 and may request any other information concerning the necessity
- 17 of such transfer. Upon such review the court shall either
- 18 approve or disapprove the transfer.
- 19 (c) The court of common pleas for the judicial district in
- 20 which the person is charged or was sentenced shall have
- 21 jurisdiction for the purpose set forth in this section.
- 22 (d) Transfer to a mental health facility shall not affect
- 23 the condition of security required by the person's criminal
- 24 <u>detention</u>. However, the court shall not order maximum security
- 25 psychiatric care merely on the ground that the person has been
- 26 detained in a prison or correctional facility.
- 27 (e) A report of the person's mental condition shall be made
- 28 by the mental health facility to the court within 30 days of the
- 29 person's transfer to such facility. Such report shall also set
- 30 forth the specific grounds which require continued treatment at

- 1 a mental health facility. After the initial report the facility
- 2 shall thereafter report to the court every 180 days.
- 3 (f) If at any time the person gives notice of his intent to
- 4 withdraw from treatment at the mental health facility he shall
- 5 be returned to the authority entitled to have him in custody, or
- 6 proceedings may be initiated under section 304 of this act.
- 7 During the pendency of any petition filed under section 304
- 8 concerning a person in treatment under this section the mental
- 9 health facility shall have authority to detain the person
- 10 regardless of the provisions of section 203, provided that the
- 11 <u>hearing under section 304 is conducted within seven days of the</u>
- 12 time the person gives notice of his intent to withdraw from
- 13 <u>treatment</u>.
- 14 (q) The period of voluntary treatment under this section
- 15 shall be credited as time served on account of any sentence to
- 16 be imposed on pending charges or any unexpired term of
- 17 imprisonment.
- 18 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.