

Bill No.: SF0058 **Effective:** 3/11/2016

LSO No.: 16LSO-0132

Enrolled Act No.: SEA No. 0056

Chapter No.: 102

Prime Sponsor: Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Interim Committee

Catch Title: Involuntary hospitalization and treatment.

Subject: Treatment options for persons involuntarily committed for mental illness and oversight of the commitment process

Summary/Major Elements:

- This act creates a directed outpatient treatment option for patients who qualify to be involuntarily committed under Title 25 of the Wyoming Statutes, but who would benefit from outpatient services. The act specifies the standards and procedures under which a person can be ordered into directed outpatient treatment.
- The act clarifies procedures related to convalescent leave for involuntarily committed persons. Convalescent leave is available to persons who have been committed and who would benefit from ramp-down treatment away from the Wyoming State Hospital or other inpatient facilities.
- The act clarifies the county's obligations to pay for the involuntary hospitalization process for the first 72 hours.
- The act allows the Department of Health, in consultation with county commissioners, to designate a single point of responsibility or "gatekeeper" to coordinate and monitor services and payments required during all stages of a Title 25 involuntary commitment. Gatekeepers are incorporated into the decision-making process with regard to initial holds, continued detentions and the court's decision whether or not to involuntarily commit a patient. Gatekeepers are provided updates and information regarding a patient's status.
- To avoid conflicts of interest, no care provider designated by the Department of Health as a gatekeeper may also provide inpatient psychiatric treatment to persons committed under Title 25.
- Although healthcare providers are required to first seek payment from private insurance and government benefit programs before seeking payment from the county or Department of Health, this act removes the requirement that they seek payment directly from the patient.

The above summary is not an official publication of the Wyoming Legislature and is not an official statement of legislative intent. While the Legislative Service Office endeavored to provide accurate information in this summary, it should not be relied upon as a comprehensive abstract of the bill.