

Act 378 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 378

HB1050

By: Representative Wilson

"AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE RELATING TO VOLUNTARY ADMISSIONS AND INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS OF MENTALLY ILL PERSONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Ark. Code Ann. 20-47-204(4) is amended to read as follows:

"(4) A person, voluntarily admitted, who absents himself from a hospital or receiving facility or program, as defined in this subchapter, may be placed on elopement status and a pick-up order issued if, in the opinion of the treatment staff, the person is homicidal, suicidal, or gravely disabled as defined in 20-47-202. It shall be the responsibility of the sheriff, or other law enforcement officer, of the county in which the individual is physically present to transport the individual. Upon return to the hospital or receiving facility or program this individual shall be held under detention as defined in 20-47-202(16)."

SECTION 2. Ark. Code Ann. 20-47-210(b) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) If no other safe means of transporting the individual is available, it shall be the responsibility of the sheriff, or other law enforcement officer, of the county in which the individual is physically present to transport the individual."

SECTION 3. Ark. Code Ann. 20-47-219(a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) If any person committed to a receiving facility or program or other hospital for care pursuant to this subchapter absents himself from a receiving facility or program or hospital without leave or fails to comply with the court approved treatment plan, the person will be returned, upon the request of the person's treatment staff, to the receiving facility or program or hospital by the sheriff, other law enforcement officers, of the county in which the individual is physically present, or hospital or receiving facility or program security personnel without further proceedings."

SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED: March 7, 1989

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