

**CHAPTER 114**  
**RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR MENTALLY ILL**  
*S.F. 524*

**AN ACT** creating a residential care licensing classification for the mentally ill.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 135C.2, subsection 3, Code 1985, is amended to read as follows:

3. The department shall establish by administrative rule, within the intermediate care facility category, a special classification for facilities intended to serve mentally retarded individuals, and within the residential care facility category, a special classification for residential facilities intended to serve mentally ill individuals. The department may also establish by administrative rule other classifications within that category, or special classifications within the residential care facility or skilled nursing facility categories, for facilities intended to serve individuals who have special health care problems or conditions in common. Rules establishing a special classification shall define the problem or condition to which the classification is relevant and establish requirements for an approved program of care commensurate with such the problem or condition, and may grant special variances or considerations to facilities licensed within the classification so established.

Sec. 2. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** The state department of health shall convene an advisory committee composed of, but not limited to, representatives from the state department of health, the department of human services, the mental health and mental retardation commission, the commission on the aging, county mental health and mental retardation coordinating boards, providers of residential services for the mentally ill, advocacy groups for the mentally ill, and past and present consumers of residential services for the mentally ill or family members of such consumers. The advisory committee shall assist the state department of health in the development of appropriate standards of care which recognize the special needs of residents in both short-term, transitional residential care facilities for the mentally ill and long-term residential care facilities for the mentally ill.

Approved May 14, 1985