

April 1, 1959.
Placed on Calendar.

House File 719

By BOARD OF CONTROL COMMITTEE.

Passed House, Date

4-15-59

Passed Senate, Date

4-23-59

Vote: Ayes

93

Nays

0

Vote: Ayes

41

Nays

0

Approved

4-28-59

A BILL FOR

An Act to provide for a director of mental health and to specify his duties.

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

1 Section 1. Section two hundred eighteen point seventy-
2 four (218.74), Code 1958, is hereby amended by striking from
3 lines two (2) and three (3) the word "institutions" and by
4 inserting in lieu thereof the word "health".

1 Sec. 2. Section two hundred eighteen point seventy-five
2 (218.75), Code 1958, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By striking from line two (2) the word "institutions"
4 and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "health".

5 2. By striking the period at the end of the section
6 and by inserting in lieu thereof the following: ", and
7 three (3) years actual experience in institutional
8 administration. He shall hold a certificate of qualifications
9 in psychiatry issued by the American Board of Psychiatry and
10 Neurology."

1 Sec. 3. Section two hundred eighteen point seventy-six
2 (218.76), Code 1958, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By striking from line two (2) the word "institutions"
4 and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "health".

5 2. By striking therefrom subsection one (1) and by
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 "Establish, under the board of control, a division of mental

8 health and serve as its chief executive officer. Administer,
9 under the policies established by the board of control, the
10 powers and duties given under the law to the board of control
11 relating to the Glenwood state school, the Woodward state
12 hospital and school, the mental health institutes, and any other
13 institutions placed by the board under the director of mental
14 health for administration, or relating to the care and treatment
15 of the mentally ill.

16 Establish psychiatric services for all institutions under
17 the jurisdiction of the board of control when approved by the
18 board and the director of corrective institutions or the
19 director of child welfare, or by the board and the chief
20 executive officer of the institution if there is no director.

21 Appoint and determine the pay of a board of professional
22 consultants to furnish advice to the director on all matters
23 pertaining to mental health. Such pay, including expenses, for
24 each member of such board shall not exceed thirty (30) dollars
25 per day. The board of professional consultants shall consist of
26 not more than seven (7) members. No more than two (2) members
27 shall be from any one (1) of the professions traditionally
28 concerned with the admission, care, examination, treatment or
29 after-care of the mentally ill. Payment to the board shall be
30 made out of funds appropriated to or under the control of the
31 board of control."

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 719

Under this bill the director of mental institutions becomes the director of mental health. In addition to the qualifications required of the present director of mental institutions, the director of mental health must have three years' experience in administration and a certificate of qualifications in psychiatry from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

The provisions of the bill specify that the director of mental health must establish a division of mental health and administer the powers and duties vested under the law in the board of control with respect to mental institutions or the care and treatment of the mentally ill. In addition, the director must establish psychiatric services in other board of control institutions if approved. The director must appoint and determine the pay of a board of professional consultants to advise him. The board must not exceed seven members.