

3/2/98 Do Pass
S-2,10/98 Human Res.

FEB 18 1998

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 2350
BY CONNORS and GRUNDBERG

(P.575)

Passed House, Date 3/10/98

Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes 88 Nays 1

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the voluntary admission and release of persons
2 suffering from dementia or a dementia-related illness to
3 inpatient psychiatric treatment.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2350

1 Section 1. Section 229.2, subsection 1, unnumbered
2 paragraph 1, Code 1997, is amended to read as follows:

3 An application for admission to a public or private
4 hospital for observation, diagnosis, care, and treatment as a
5 voluntary patient may be made by any person who is mentally
6 ill or has symptoms of mental illness. If a person is
7 suffering from severe clinically diagnosed dementia or a
8 severe dementia-related illness or exhibits symptoms of severe
9 dementia or a severe dementia-related illness, an application
10 for inpatient psychiatric admission for observation,
11 diagnosis, care, and treatment may be made by the person's
12 next of kin.

13 Sec. 2. Section 229.4, Code 1997, is amended by adding the
14 following new subsection:

15 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. If the patient was admitted on
16 application by the patient's next of kin for inpatient
17 psychiatric observation, diagnosis, care, and treatment
18 because of severe dementia or a severe dementia-related
19 illness, and the request for release is made by the patient,
20 release may be conditioned upon the agreement of the next of
21 kin.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill provides that persons who are suffering from
24 severe dementia or a dementia-related illness or exhibit
25 symptoms of severe dementia may be voluntarily admitted to
26 inpatient psychiatric care and treatment by the patient's next
27 of kin. The release of the person who is suffering from
28 severe dementia or a severe dementia-related illness and who
29 has been voluntarily admitted for inpatient psychiatric care
30 and treatment by the person's next of kin may be conditioned
31 upon the agreement of the next of kin.

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