

1-1 By: Hartnett (Senate Sponsor - Harris) H.B. No. 2679
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 7, 2003;
1-3 May 9, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Administration; May 19, 2003, reported favorably, as amended, by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 19, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1 By: Harris

1-7 Amend H.B. 2679 on page 3, line 6 by inserting "who is 18 years of
1-8 age or older" after the word "ward" and before ",".

1-9 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-10 AN ACT

1-11 relating to the authority of a guardian of the person of a ward to
1-12 transport the ward to an inpatient mental health facility and file
1-13 for emergency detention under certain circumstances and to consent
1-14 to the administration of certain medication.

1-15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-16 SECTION 1. Section 743(b), Texas Probate Code, is amended
1-17 to read as follows:

1-18 (b) The guardian of the person, whether or not there is a
1-19 separate guardian of the estate, shall submit to the court an annual
1-20 report by sworn affidavit that contains the following information:

1-21 (1) the guardian's current name, address, and phone
1-22 number;

1-23 (2) the ward's current:
1-24 (A) name, address, and phone number; and
1-25 (B) age and date of birth;

1-26 (3) the type of home in which the ward resides,
1-27 described as the ward's own; a nursing, guardian's, foster, or
1-28 boarding home; a relative's home, and the ward's relationship to the
1-29 relative; a hospital or medical facility; or other type of
1-30 residence;

1-31 (4) the length of time the ward has resided in the
1-32 present home and, if there has been a change in the ward's residence
1-33 in the past year, the reason for the change;

1-34 (5) the date the guardian most recently saw the ward,
1-35 and how frequently the guardian has seen the ward in the past year;

1-36 (6) a statement indicating whether or not the guardian
1-37 has possession or control of the ward's estate;

1-38 (7) the following statements concerning the ward's
1-39 health during the past year:

1-40 (A) whether the ward's mental health has
1-41 improved, deteriorated, or remained unchanged, and a description if
1-42 there has been a change; and

1-43 (B) whether the ward's physical health has
1-44 improved, deteriorated, or remained unchanged, and a description if
1-45 there has been a change;

1-46 (8) a statement concerning whether or not the ward has
1-47 regular medical care, and the ward's treatment or evaluation by any
1-48 of the following persons during the last year, including the name of
1-49 that person, and the treatment involved:

1-50 (A) a physician;

1-51 (B) a psychiatrist, psychologist, or other
1-52 mental health care provider;

1-53 (C) a dentist;

1-54 (D) a social or other caseworker; or

1-55 (E) another individual who provided treatment;

1-56 (9) a description of the ward's activities during the
1-57 past year, including recreational, educational, social, and
1-58 occupational activities, or if no activities are available or if
1-59 the ward is unable or has refused to participate in them, a
1-60 statement to that effect;

1-61 (10) the guardian's evaluation of the ward's living
1-62 arrangements as excellent, average, or below average, including an

2-1 explanation if the conditions are below average;
 2-2 (11) the guardian's evaluation of whether the ward is
 2-3 content or unhappy with the ward's living arrangements;
 2-4 (12) the guardian's evaluation of unmet needs of the
 2-5 ward;
 2-6 (13) a statement of whether or not the guardian's power
 2-7 should be increased, decreased, or unaltered, including an
 2-8 explanation if a change is recommended;
 2-9 (14) a statement that the guardian has paid the bond
 2-10 premium for the next reporting period; and
 2-11 (15) any additional information the guardian desires
 2-12 to share with the court regarding the ward, including whether the
 2-13 guardian has filed for emergency detention of the ward under
 2-14 Subchapter A, Chapter 573, Health and Safety Code, and if
 2-15 applicable, the number of times the guardian has filed and the dates
 2-16 of the applications.

2-17 SECTION 2. Section 767, Texas Probate Code, is amended to
 2-18 read as follows:

2-19 Sec. 767. POWERS AND DUTIES OF GUARDIANS OF THE PERSON. (a)
 2-20 The guardian of the person is entitled to the charge and control of
 2-21 the person of the ward, and the duties of the guardian correspond
 2-22 with the rights of the guardian. A guardian of the person has:

- 2-23 (1) the right to have physical possession of the ward
- 2-24 and to establish the ward's legal domicile;
- 2-25 (2) the duty of care, control, and protection of the
- 2-26 ward;
- 2-27 (3) the duty to provide the ward with clothing, food,
- 2-28 medical care, and shelter; and
- 2-29 (4) the power to consent to medical, psychiatric, and
- 2-30 surgical treatment other than the in-patient psychiatric
- 2-31 commitment of the ward.

2-32 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(4) of this section, a
 2-33 guardian of the person of a ward has the power to transport the ward
 2-34 to an inpatient mental health facility for a preliminary
 2-35 examination in accordance with Subchapters A and C, Chapter 573,
 2-36 Health and Safety Code.

2-37 SECTION 3. Section 770(b), Texas Probate Code, is amended
 2-38 to read as follows:

2-39 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c) or (d) of this
 2-40 section, a guardian may not voluntarily admit an incapacitated
 2-41 person to a public or private in-patient psychiatric facility or to
 2-42 a residential facility operated by the Texas Department of Mental
 2-43 Health and Mental Retardation for care and treatment. If care and
 2-44 treatment in a psychiatric or a residential facility are necessary,
 2-45 the person or the person's guardian may:

- 2-46 (1) apply for services under Section 593.027 or
- 2-47 593.028, Health and Safety Code;
- 2-48 (2) ~~or~~ apply to a court to commit the person under
- 2-49 Subtitle D, Title 7, Health and Safety Code (Persons with Mental
- 2-50 Retardation Act), Subtitle C, Title 7, Health and Safety Code
- 2-51 (Texas Mental Health Code), or Chapter 462, Health and Safety Code;
- 2-52 or
- 2-53 (3) transport the ward to an inpatient mental health
 2-54 facility for a preliminary examination in accordance with
 2-55 Subchapters A and C, Chapter 573, Health and Safety Code.

2-56 SECTION 4. Subpart E, Part 4, Chapter XIII, Texas Probate
 2-57 Code, is amended by adding Section 770A to read as follows:

2-58 Sec. 770A. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION. (a) In this
 2-59 section, "psychoactive medication" has the meaning assigned by
 2-60 Section 574.101, Health and Safety Code.

2-61 (b) If a person under a protective custody order as provided
 2-62 by Subchapter B, Chapter 574, Health and Safety Code, is a ward who
 2-63 is not a minor, the guardian of the person of the ward may consent to
 2-64 the administration of psychoactive medication as prescribed by the
 2-65 ward's treating physician regardless of the ward's expressed
 2-66 preferences regarding treatment with psychoactive medication.

2-67 SECTION 5. The heading of Subchapter A, Chapter 573, Health
 2-68 and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

2-69 SUBCHAPTER A. APPREHENSION BY PEACE OFFICER

OR TRANSPORTATION FOR EMERGENCY DETENTION BY GUARDIAN

SECTION 6. Subchapter A, Chapter 573, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 573.003 and 573.004 to read as follows:

Sec. 573.003. TRANSPORTATION FOR EMERGENCY DETENTION BY GUARDIAN. (a) A guardian of the person of a ward, without the assistance of a peace officer, may transport the ward to an inpatient mental health facility for a preliminary examination in accordance with Section 573.021 if the guardian has reason to believe and does believe that:

(1) the ward is mentally ill; and

(2) because of that mental illness there is a substantial risk of serious harm to the ward or to others unless the ward is immediately restrained.

(b) A substantial risk of serious harm to the ward or others under Subsection (a)(2) may be demonstrated by:

(1) the ward's behavior; or

(2) evidence of severe emotional distress and deterioration in the ward's mental condition to the extent that the ward cannot remain at liberty.

Sec. 573.004. GUARDIAN'S APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY DETENTION. (a) After transporting a ward to a facility under Section 573.003, a guardian shall immediately file an application for detention with the facility.

(b) The application for detention must contain:

(1) a statement that the guardian has reason to believe and does believe that the ward evidences mental illness;

(2) a statement that the guardian has reason to believe and does believe that the ward evidences a substantial risk of serious harm to the ward or others;

(3) a specific description of the risk of harm;

(4) a statement that the guardian has reason to believe and does believe that the risk of harm is imminent unless the ward is immediately restrained;

(5) a statement that the guardian's beliefs are derived from specific recent behavior, overt acts, attempts, or threats that were observed by the guardian; and

(6) a detailed description of the specific behavior, acts, attempts, or threats.

(c) The guardian shall immediately provide written notice of the filing of an application under this section to the court that granted the guardianship.

SECTION 7. Section 573.021(c), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A physician shall examine the person as soon as possible within 24 hours after the time the person is apprehended by the peace officer or transported for emergency detention by the person's guardian.

SECTION 8. Section 573.023(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person apprehended by a peace officer or transported for emergency detention under Subchapter A or detained under Subchapter B shall be released on completion of the preliminary examination unless the person is admitted to a facility under Section 573.022.

SECTION 9. Section 573.024(c), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) If the person was apprehended by a peace officer under Subchapter A, arrangements must be made to immediately transport the person. If the person was transported for emergency detention under Subchapter A or detained under Subchapter B, the person is entitled to reasonably prompt transportation.

SECTION 10. Section 573.025, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 573.025. RIGHTS OF PERSONS APPREHENDED, [OR] DETAINED, OR TRANSPORTED FOR EMERGENCY DETENTION. (a) A person apprehended, [or] detained, or transported for emergency detention under this chapter has the right:

(1) to be advised of the location of detention, the

4-1 reasons for the detention, and the fact that the detention could
4-2 result in a longer period of involuntary commitment;

4-3 (2) to a reasonable opportunity to communicate with
4-4 and retain an attorney;

4-5 (3) to be transported to a location as provided by
4-6 Section 573.024 if the person is not admitted for emergency
4-7 detention, unless the person is arrested or objects;

4-8 (4) to be released from a facility as provided by
4-9 Section 573.023;

4-10 (5) to be advised that communications with a mental
4-11 health professional may be used in proceedings for further
4-12 detention; and

4-13 (6) to be transported in accordance with Sections
4-14 573.026 and 574.045, if the person is detained under Section
4-15 573.022 or transported under an order of protective custody under
4-16 Section 574.023.

4-17 (b) A person apprehended, ~~or~~ detained, or transported for
4-18 emergency detention under this subtitle shall be informed of the
4-19 rights provided by this section:

4-20 (1) orally in simple, nontechnical terms, within 24
4-21 hours after the time the person is admitted to a facility, and in
4-22 writing in the person's primary language if possible; or

4-23 (2) through the use of a means reasonably calculated
4-24 to communicate with a hearing or visually impaired person, if
4-25 applicable.

4-26 SECTION 11. Section 574.103, Health and Safety Code, is
4-27 amended to read as follows:

4-28 Sec. 574.103. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO PATIENT UNDER
4-29 COURT-ORDERED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. (a) In this section, "ward"
4-30 has the meaning assigned by Section 601, Texas Probate Code.

4-31 (b) A person may not administer a psychoactive medication to
4-32 a patient who refuses to take the medication voluntarily unless:

4-33 (1) the patient is having a medication-related
4-34 emergency; ~~or~~

4-35 (2) the patient is under an order issued under Section
4-36 574.106 authorizing the administration of the medication
4-37 regardless of the patient's refusal; or

4-38 (3) the patient is a ward who is 18 years of age or
4-39 older and the guardian of the person of the ward consents to the
4-40 administration of psychoactive medication regardless of the ward's
4-41 expressed preferences regarding treatment with psychoactive
4-42 medication.

4-43 SECTION 12. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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