

CHAPTER 608—S. F. No. 1448

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to mental health; amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 246.015, Subdivision 3, and repealing Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 246.015, Subdivisions 1 and 2.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. [246.016] **Office of commissioner of mental health and mental hospitals abolished.** The office of the commissioner of mental health and mental hospitals is hereby abolished and Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 246.015, Subdivisions 1 and 2, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 246.015, Subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Director of public institutions, duties as to aftercare of inmates.** Within the limits of the appropriations available, the *director of public institutions* may provide consultative services for courts, and state welfare agencies, supervise the placement and aftercare of patients provisionally or otherwise discharged from a state hospital or institution, promote and conduct programs of education for the people of the state relating to the problem of mental health and mental hygiene. The *director of public institutions* shall administer, expend and distribute Federal funds which may be made available to the state and funds other than those appropriated by the Legislature, which may be made available to the state for mental health and mental hygiene purposes.

Sec. 3. [246.017] **Medical policy directional committee on mental health.** [Subdivision 1.] **System of records and statistics.** *The director of public institutions shall cause to be devised, installed and operated an adequate system of records and statistics which shall consist of all basic record forms including patient personal records and medical record forms and the manner of their use shall be precisely uniform throughout all hospitals for the mentally ill.*

Sec. 4. [Subd. 2.]: **Membership, duties, meetings.** *The director of public institutions shall create and establish a medical policy directional committee on mental health composed of five members who are experts in their various fields of medicine or related sciences: Not more than one member shall be selected from any one field of medicine or related sciences which shall include the field of psychiatry, neurology, physiology, biochemistry, internal medicine, pediatrics, pharmacology, and psychology.*

One member shall be appointed whose term shall expire July 1, 1954, and his successors thereafter shall be appointed for a period of three years; two members shall be appointed whose terms expire on July 1, 1955, and their successors shall be appointed for a term of three years; two members shall be appointed whose terms shall expire on July 1, 1956, and their successors thereafter shall be appointed for a term of three years.

The committee will meet at least once each month at such times and in such places as the director of public institutions may determine. He may call such additional meetings from time to time as he may deem necessary not exceeding a maximum of 50 meetings in any one year. Each member will receive the sum of \$50 per day for time actually spent in transacting the business of the board and shall be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred in the performance of their official duties.

The committee shall advise the director as to all phases of professional standards including patient care, training of personnel, establishment of treatment programs, obtaining adequate staff, establishment of medical and statistical records and operation of practices in order that they be compatible with professional requirements. The committee shall advise the director in approval and guidance of research projects and distribution of research funds. They shall assist the director in establishing and maintaining the best possible practices in all mental institutions.

The director shall appoint a licensed physician to assist him in establishing and maintaining the medical policies formulated by [the] committee. Such physician shall have the rights and qualifications and serve upon the conditions prescribed by Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 246.02, for the appointment of certain officers.

Approved April 21, 1953.

CHAPTER 609—S. F. No. 1449

An act authorizing the destruction of interim receipts filed with the industrial commission, amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 175.36.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 175.36, is amended to read: