

No. 184, S.]

[Published June 22, 1945.]

**CHAPTER 340.**

AN ACT to amend 51.10 of the statutes, relating to voluntary admissions.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

51.10 of the statutes is amended to read:

51.10 Any adult person having legal settlement in this state, believing himself to be insane or suffering from mental disorder, may, upon his written application stating his mental condition, supported by the certificate of at least \* \* \* one physician possessing the qualifications prescribed by section 51.01 (2), based upon personal examination of such person, be admitted as a voluntary patient to any public hospital for the insane in this state in the discretion of the superintendent thereof for treatment. *Minor children may be admitted upon application signed by parent or legal guardian supported by physician's certificate.* Such persons, if so admitted to either of the state or county hospitals or asylums for the insane, if not indigent shall be required to pay the actual per capita cost of his maintenance. If indigent, the superintendent of the institution shall forward a certified copy of the application to the county judge of the county from which such patient was admitted, who shall investigate the matter of legal settlement and make a legal finding as to the legal settlement and certify same to the superintendent of the institution and the county in which said legal settlement is located shall be chargeable with the person's care pursuant to section 46.10. Otherwise all voluntary patients shall have the same standing and be subject to the same laws, including section 51.12, rules and regulations as regularly committed persons, except that they shall have the right to leave such hospital at any time if in the judgment of the superintendent they are in fit condition, on giving 5 days' notice to the superintendent of their desire to do so.

Approved June 20, 1945,