

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to psychiatric nurses; amending s.
 3 394.455, F.S.; revising the definition of the term
 4 "psychiatric nurse" to require specified national
 5 certification; amending s. 394.463, F.S.; authorizing
 6 a psychiatric nurse to approve the involuntary
 7 examination or release of a patient from a receiving
 8 facility; providing an effective date.

9
 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
 12 Section 1. Subsection (23) of section 394.455, Florida
 13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 394.455 Definitions.—As used in this part, unless the
 15 context clearly requires otherwise, the term:

16 (23) "Psychiatric nurse" means a registered nurse
 17 certified under s. 464.012 who has a master's or doctoral degree
 18 in psychiatric nursing and holds a national advanced practice
 19 certification as a psychiatric-mental health advanced practice
 20 nurse licensed under part I of chapter 464 who has a master's
 21 degree or a doctorate in psychiatric nursing and 2 years of
 22 post-master's clinical experience under the supervision of a
 23 physician.

24 Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section
 25 394.463, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

26 394.463 Involuntary examination.—

27 (2) INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATION.—

28 (f) A patient shall be examined by a physician, a ~~or~~
29 clinical psychologist, or a psychiatric nurse at a receiving
30 facility without unnecessary delay and may, upon the order of a
31 physician, be given emergency treatment if it is determined that
32 such treatment is necessary for the safety of the patient or
33 others. The patient may not be released by the receiving
34 facility or its contractor without the documented approval of a
35 psychiatrist, a clinical psychologist, or a psychiatric nurse,
36 or, if the receiving facility is a hospital, the release may
37 also be approved by an attending emergency department physician
38 with experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and
39 nervous disorders and after completion of an involuntary
40 examination pursuant to this subsection. However, a patient may
41 not be held in a receiving facility for involuntary examination
42 longer than 72 hours.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.