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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/23/2015	.	
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The Committee on Health Policy (Grimsley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

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

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

(23) "Psychiatric nurse" means an advanced a registered
nurse practitioner certified under s. 464.012 who has a master's



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11 or doctoral degree in psychiatric nursing and holds a national
12 advanced practice certification as a psychiatric-mental health
13 advanced practice nurse licensed under part I of chapter 464 who
14 ~~has a master's degree or a doctorate in psychiatric nursing and~~
15 2 years of post-master's clinical experience under the
16 supervision of a physician.

17 Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section
18 394.463, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 394.463 Involuntary examination.—

20 (2) INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATION.—

21 (f) A patient shall be examined by a physician, a ~~or~~
22 clinical psychologist, or a psychiatric nurse performing within
23 the framework of an established protocol with a psychiatrist at
24 a receiving facility without unnecessary delay and may, upon the
25 order of a physician, be given emergency treatment if it is
26 determined that such treatment is necessary for the safety of
27 the patient or others. The patient may not be released by the
28 receiving facility or its contractor without the documented
29 approval of a psychiatrist, a clinical psychologist, or, if the
30 receiving facility is owned or operated by a hospital or health
31 system, the release may also be approved by a psychiatric nurse
32 performing within the framework of an established protocol with
33 a psychiatrist or an attending emergency department physician
34 with experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and
35 nervous disorders and after completion of an involuntary
36 examination pursuant to this subsection. A psychiatric nurse may
37 not approve the release of a patient when the involuntary
38 examination has been initiated by a psychiatrist unless the
39 release is approved by the initiating psychiatrist. However, a



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40 patient may not be held in a receiving facility for involuntary
41 examination longer than 72 hours.

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

43 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

44 And the title is amended as follows:

45 Delete everything before the enacting clause
46 and insert:

47 A bill to be entitled
48 An act relating to mental health; amending s. 394.455,
49 F.S.; redefining the term "psychiatric nurse";
50 amending s. 394.463, F.S.; adding a psychiatric nurse
51 as a person at a receiving facility authorized to
52 perform a required examination of certain patients;
53 prohibiting the release of a patient from a receiving
54 facility that is owned or operated by a hospital or
55 health system without specified approvals; authorizing
56 the release of a patient by a psychiatric nurse under
57 certain circumstances; prohibiting a psychiatric nurse
58 from releasing a patient if the involuntary
59 examination was initiated by a psychiatrist without
60 the psychiatrist's approval; providing an effective
61 date.