



Alaska State Legislature

Senator Matt Claman

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Senate Bill 44

Sectional Analysis — Version N

Section 1

AS 47.30.840 Right to privacy and personal possessions; other rights.

Adds a new section to ensure a minor undergoing evaluation or inpatient treatment at a psychiatric hospital has the right, unless otherwise prohibited by law or court order, to have confidential video communication at least once each week for at least one hour with the minor's parent or legal guardian or other adult approved by the professional person in charge, which will be facilitated by the psychiatric hospital. The psychiatric hospital may place a reasonable limit on the number of calls.

Section 2

AS 47.32.030 Powers of the Department of Health and the Department of Family and Community Services; delegation to municipality.

Adds a new subsection (e) and (f). Subsection (e) requires the Department of Health to prepare an annual report regarding minors in psychiatric hospitals, to publish the report on the department's website, submit to the Senate Secretary and Chief Clerk of the House of Representative, and notify the Legislature of its availability. Subsection (f) requires the Department of Family and Community Services to collect data on minors in state custody who receive residential psychiatric care at psychiatric hospitals and to submit it to Department of Health for their report.

Section 3

AS 47.32.110 Right of access and inspection.

Amends subsection (c) to authorize the officer or employee of a department with licensing authority to enter for any purposes described in new subsection (d).

Section 4

AS 47.32.110 Right of access and inspection.

Adds a new subsection (d) to require a designated agent or employee of the Department of Health to conduct, at least twice a year, unannounced inspections of each psychiatric hospital where minors undergo evaluation or inpatient treatment in which a minor has spent more than three nights in the preceding year. At these inspections, the designated agent or employee must interview at least 50% of the patients.

Section 5

AS 47.32.200 Notice required of entities.

Adds a new subsection (g) to require a psychiatric hospital to send written notification of each use of seclusion or restraint on a minor, including the use of a chemical, mechanical, or physical restraint, to the Department of Health and the minor's parent or guardian within one business day after the use of seclusion or restraint. The notification by a psychiatric hospital regarding the use of a chemical restraint must include the type of psychotropic medication used.

Section 6

Sets the effective date of July 1, 2025.