

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011  
4

As Engrossed: H3/15/11

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1785

5 By: Representatives H. Wilkins, E. Elliott  
6 By: Senator Laverty  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ADD THE DEFINITION OF INVOLUNTARY ADMISSION  
10 TO THE LAWS ON COMMITMENT AND TREATMENT; TO CLARIFY  
11 WHO MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL PERIODS OF INVOLUNTARY  
12 TREATMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

16 TO ADD THE DEFINITION OF INVOLUNTARY  
17 ADMISSION TO THE LAWS ON COMMITMENT AND  
18 TREATMENT AND TO CLARIFY WHO MAY REQUEST  
19 ADDITIONAL PERIODS OF INVOLUNTARY  
20 TREATMENT.  
21

22  
23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-47-202 is amended to add a new  
26 definition to read as follows:

27 (19) "Involuntary admission" means:

28 (A) Court-ordered admission to 24-hour inpatient health  
29 care;

30 (B) Immediate confinement under § 20-47-210; or

31 (C) Admission to outpatient behavioral health care  
32 services furnished by a receiving facility or program or a behavioral health  
33 care clinic certified by the Division of Behavioral Health.  
34

35 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-47-215(a) and (b), concerning  
36 involuntary admission, are amended to read as follows:



1 (a) Generally.

2 (1) Additional one hundred eighty-day involuntary admission  
3 orders may be requested if, in the opinion of the treatment staff, a person  
4 involuntarily admitted continues to meet the criteria for involuntary  
5 admission.

6 (2) Additional one hundred eighty-day involuntary admission  
7 periods may be requested by the treatment staff ~~of the hospital or receiving~~  
8 ~~facility or program when it is its~~ if it is the opinion of the treatment  
9 staff that the person needs continued treatment and supervision without which  
10 the person poses a likelihood of danger to himself or herself or to others as  
11 defined in § 20-47-207 if discharged.

12 (3) The treatment staff ~~of the hospital or of the receiving~~  
13 ~~facility or program~~ may request additional involuntary admission orders as  
14 they are deemed necessary.

15 (b) Procedure.

16 (1) (A) ~~Any~~ A request for periods of additional involuntary  
17 admission ~~pursuant to~~ under this section shall be made by a petition verified  
18 by the ~~psychiatrist of the hospital or receiving facility or program~~  
19 ~~treatment staff~~ a member of the treatment staff.

20 (B) The petition shall set forth the facts and  
21 circumstances forming the basis for the request.

22 (2) Upon the filing of a petition for additional involuntary  
23 admission, all rights enumerated in §§ 20-47-211 and 20-47-212 shall be  
24 applicable.

25  
26 /s/H. Wilkins

27  
28  
29 **APPROVED: 03/30/2011**