

CHAPTER 85--H.F.No. 827

An act relating to civil commitment; specifying limitation on notice of release or discharge; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 253B.05, subdivision 3.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 253B.05, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duration of hold.** (a) Any person held pursuant to this section may be held up to 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays after admission. If a petition for the commitment of the person is filed in the district court in the county of financial responsibility or of the county in which the treatment facility is located, the court may issue a judicial hold order pursuant to section 253B.07, subdivision 2b.

(b) During the 72-hour hold period, a court may not release a person held under this section unless the court has received a written petition for release and held a summary hearing regarding the release. The petition must include the name of the person being held, the basis for and location of the hold, and a statement as to why the hold is improper. The petition also must include copies of any written documentation under subdivision 1 or 2 in support of the hold, unless the person holding the petitioner refuses to supply the documentation. The hearing must be held as soon as practicable and may be conducted by means of a telephone conference call or similar method by which the participants are able to simultaneously hear each other. If the court decides to release the person, the court shall direct the release and shall issue written findings supporting the decision. The release may not be delayed pending the written order. Before deciding to release the person, the court shall make every reasonable effort to provide notice of the proposed release to:

(1) any specific individuals identified in a statement under subdivision 1 or 2 or individuals identified in the record who might be endangered if the person was not held;

(2) the examiner whose written statement was a basis for a hold under subdivision 1; and

(3) the peace or health officer who applied for a hold under subdivision 2.

(c) If a person is intoxicated in public and held under this section for detoxification, a treatment facility may release the person without providing notice under paragraph (d) as soon as the treatment facility determines the person is no longer a danger to themselves or others. Notice must be provided to the peace officer or health officer who transported the person, or the appropriate law enforcement agency, if the officer or agency requests notification.

(d) Notwithstanding section 144.293, subdivisions 2 and 4, if a treatment facility releases or discharges a person during the 72-hour hold period or if the person leaves the facility without the consent of the treating health care provider, the head of the treatment facility shall immediately notify the agency which employs the peace or health officer who transported the person to the treatment facility under this section. This paragraph does not apply to the extent that the notice would violate federal law governing the confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records, under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 2.

(e) A person held under a 72-hour emergency hold must be released by the facility within 72 hours unless a court order to hold the person is obtained. A consecutive emergency hold order under this section may not be issued.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 20, 2017

Signed by the governor May 23, 2017, 3:22 p.m.