

CHAPTER 139**(HB 242)**

AN ACT relating to public health.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 202A.031 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) An authorized staff physician may order the admission of any person who is present at, or is presented at, a hospital. ***For the purposes of this subsection only, a hospital may include any acute care hospital that is licensed by the Commonwealth.*** Within twenty-four (24) hours (excluding weekends and holidays) of the admission under this section, the authorized staff physician ordering the admission of the individual shall certify in the record of the individual that in his opinion the individual should be involuntarily hospitalized.
- (2) Any individual who has been admitted to a hospital under subsection (1) of this section shall be released from the hospital within seventy-two (72) hours (excluding weekends and holidays) unless further detained under the applicable provisions of this chapter.

Approved April 22, 2004