

Section 16-2403 – Idaho State Legislature

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Idaho Statutes

TITLE 16

JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS

CHAPTER 24

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

16-2403. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Child" means an individual less than eighteen (18) years of age and not emancipated by either marriage or legal proceeding.
- (2) "Consistent with the least restrictive alternative principle" means that services are delivered in the setting which places the fewest restrictions on the personal liberty of the child, and provides the greatest integration with individuals who do not have disabilities, in typical and age appropriate, school, community and family environments, which is consistent with safe, effective and cost-effective treatment for the child and family.
- (3) "Department" means the department of health and welfare.
- (4) "Designated examiner" means a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, or social worker and such other mental health professionals as may be designated in accordance with rules promulgated pursuant to the provisions of [chapter 52, title 67](#), Idaho Code, by the department of health and welfare. Any person designated by the department director will be specially qualified by training and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental or mentally related illnesses or conditions.
- (5) "Director" means the director of the state department of health and welfare.
- (6) "Emergency" means a situation in which the child's condition, as evidenced by recent behavior, poses a significant threat to the health or safety of the child, his family or others, or poses a serious risk of substantial deterioration in the child's condition which cannot be eliminated by the use of supportive services or intervention by the child's parents, or mental health professionals, and treatment in the community while the child remains in his family home.
- (7) "Informed consent to treatment" means a knowing and voluntary decision to undergo a specific course of treatment, evidenced in writing, and made by an emancipated child, or a child's parent, or guardian, who has the capacity to make an informed decision, after the staff of the facility or other provider of treatment have explained the nature and effects of the proposed treatment.
- (8) "Involuntary treatment" means treatment, services and placement of children provided without consent of the parent of a child, under the authority of a court order obtained pursuant to this chapter, as directed by an order of disposition issued by a designated employee of the department of health and welfare under section [16-2415](#), Idaho Code.
- (9) "Lacks capacity to make an informed decision concerning treatment" means that the parent is unable to understand the nature and effects of hospitalization or treatment, or is unable to engage in a rational decision-making process regarding such hospitalization or treatment, as evidenced by an inability to weigh

the risks and benefits, despite conscientious efforts to explain them in terms that the parent can understand.

(10) "Likely to cause harm to himself or to suffer substantial mental or physical deterioration" means that, as evidenced by recent behavior, the child:

(a) Is likely in the near future to inflict substantial physical injury upon himself; or

(b) Is likely to suffer significant deprivation of basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, health or safety; or

(c) Will suffer a substantial increase or persistence of symptoms of mental illness or serious emotional disturbance which is likely to result in an inability to function in the community without risk to his safety or well-being or the safety or well-being of others, and which cannot be treated adequately with available home and community-based outpatient services.

(11) "Likely to cause harm to others" means that, as evidenced by recent behavior causing, attempting, or threatening such harm with the apparent ability to complete the act, a child is likely to cause physical injury or physical abuse to another person.

(12) "Protection and advocacy system" means the agency designated by the governor as the state protection and advocacy system pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6042 and 42 U.S.C. 10801 et seq.

(13) "Serious emotional disturbance" means an emotional or behavioral disorder, or a neuropsychiatric condition which results in a serious disability, and which requires sustained treatment interventions, and causes the child's functioning to be impaired in thought, perception, affect or behavior. A disorder shall be considered to "result in a serious disability" if it causes substantial impairment of functioning in family, school or community. A substance abuse disorder does not, by itself, constitute a serious emotional disturbance, although it may coexist with serious emotional disturbance.

(14) "Special therapy" means any treatment modality used to treat children with serious emotional disturbances which is subject to restrictions or special conditions imposed by the department of health and welfare rules.

(15) "Surrogate parent" means any person appointed to act in the place of the parent of a child for purposes of developing an individual education program under the authority of the individuals with disabilities education act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., as amended.

(16) "Teens at risk" means individuals attending Idaho secondary public schools who have been identified as expressing or exhibiting indications of depression, suicidal inclination, emotional trauma, substance abuse or other behaviors or symptoms that indicate the existence of, or that may lead to, the development of mental illness or substance abuse.

(17) "Treatment facility" means a facility or program meeting applicable licensing standards, that has been approved for the provisions of services under this chapter by the department of health and welfare.

History:

[16-2403, added 1997, ch. 404, sec. 1, p. 1284; am. 2003, ch. 249, sec. 1, p. 642; am. 2007, ch. 309, sec. 1, p. 870; am. 2008, ch. 219, sec. 1, p. 678.]

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Section 16-2411 – Idaho State Legislature

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Idaho Statutes

TITLE 16

JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS

CHAPTER 24

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

16-2411. Emergency mental health response and evaluation — Temporary detention by a peace officer or health care professional. (1) A peace officer may take a child into protective custody and immediately transport the child to a treatment facility for emergency mental health evaluation in the absence of a court order if and only if the officer determines that an emergency situation exists as defined in this chapter, and the officer has probable cause to believe, based on personal observation and investigation, representation of the child's parents or the recommendation of a mental health professional, that the child is suffering from serious emotional disturbance as a result of which he is likely to cause harm to himself or others or is manifestly unable to preserve his health or safety with the supports and assistance available to him and that immediate detention and treatment is necessary to prevent harm to the child or others.

(2) For purposes of this section, "health care professional" means a physician, physician's assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, any one (1) of whom then is practicing in a hospital. A health care professional may detain a child if such person determines that an emergency situation exists as defined in this chapter, and such person has probable cause to believe that the child is suffering from a serious emotional disturbance as a result of which he is likely to cause harm to himself or others or is manifestly unable to preserve his health or safety with the supports and assistance available to him and that immediate detention and treatment is necessary to prevent harm to the child or others. If the hospital does not have an appropriate facility to provide emergency mental health care, it may cause the child to be transported to an appropriate treatment facility. The health care professional shall notify the parent or legal guardian, if known, as soon as possible and shall document in the patient's chart the efforts to contact the parent or legal guardian. If the parent or legal guardian cannot be located or contacted, the health care professional shall cause a report to be filed as soon as possible and in no case later than twenty-four (24) hours with the Idaho department of health and welfare or an appropriate law enforcement agency. The child may not be detained against the parent or legal guardian's explicit direction unless the child is taken into protective custody pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, except that the child may be detained for a reasonable period of time necessary for a peace officer to be summoned to the hospital to make a determination under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If a child has been taken into protective custody by a peace officer under the provisions of this section, the officer shall immediately transport the child to a treatment facility or mental health program, such as a regional mental health center, a mobile crisis intervention program, or a therapeutic foster care facility, provided such center's program or facility has been approved by the regional office of the department for that purpose. The department shall make a list of approved facilities available to law enforcement agencies.

(4) Upon taking the child into protective custody or detaining the child pursuant to this section, the officer or health care professional shall take reasonable precautions to safeguard and preserve the personal property of the child unless a parent or guardian or responsible relative is able to do so. Upon presenting a child to a treatment facility, the officer shall inform the staff in writing of the facts that caused him to detain the child and shall specifically state whether the child is otherwise subject to being held for juvenile or criminal offenses.

(5) If the child who is being detained by a peace officer is not released to the child's parent, guardian or custodian, the law enforcement agency shall contact the child's parent, guardian or custodian as soon as possible, and in no case later than twenty-four (24) hours, and shall notify the child's parent, guardian or custodian of his status, location and the reasons for the detention of the child. If the parents cannot be located or contacted, efforts to comply with this section and the reasons for failure to make contact shall be documented in the child's record.

History:

[16-2411, added 1997, ch. 404, sec. 1, p. 1288; am. 2013, ch. 293, sec. 1, p. 770.]

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