

§§1-3
C. 30:4-3.12
To
30:4-3.14
§4
Note To §§1-3

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 69, *approved April 16, 1997*

Senate, No. 1541

1 **AN ACT** concerning employees of State psychiatric hospitals and
2 supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. For the purposes of this act:

8 "Clinical treatment staff" means a physician, psychiatrist,
9 psychologist, physical therapist or social worker licensed pursuant to
10 Title 45 of the Revised Statutes, an occupational, recreation, art or
11 music therapist or a substance abuse counselor.

12 "Immediate family member" includes the staff member's spouse and
13 children, the staff member's siblings and parents, the staff member's
14 spouse's siblings and parents and the spouses of the staff member's
15 children.

16 "Nursing direct care staff" means a Human Services Assistant,
17 Human Services Technician, or a nurse licensed pursuant to Title 45
18 of the Revised Statutes.

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20 2. A clinical treatment staff or nursing direct care staff member of
21 a State psychiatric hospital listed in R.S.30:1-7 shall not have direct
22 supervisory responsibilities over any immediate family member.

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24 3. A clinical treatment staff or nursing direct care staff member of
25 a State psychiatric hospital listed in R.S.30:1-7 shall promptly notify
26 the chief executive officer of the hospital if the staff member also is
27 employed outside of the State psychiatric hospital. The notification
28 shall include the name of the employer and the number of hours per
29 day or week, as applicable, that the staff member is so employed. The
30 information shall be updated at least annually, but as often as
31 necessary to reflect any change in outside employment. The
32 notification to the chief executive officer shall be confidential, and the
33 information shall only be used for the purpose of ensuring that the
34 outside employment does not create a conflict or interfere with the
35 staff member's duties and responsibilities at the State psychiatric
36 hospital.

37 Subject to the provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes,

1 if a staff member fails to notify the chief executive officer as required
2 in this section, the staff member shall be subject to salary and
3 promotion limitations or demotion, and in the case of deliberate
4 noncompliance with the notification requirement, removal from
5 employment.

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7 4. This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill provides that a clinical treatment staff or nursing direct
12 care staff member of a State psychiatric hospital shall not have direct
13 supervisory responsibilities over any immediate family member.
14 Immediate family member includes the staff member's spouse and
15 children, the staff member's siblings and parents, the staff member's
16 spouse's siblings and parents and the spouses of the staff member's
17 children.

18 The bill also requires a clinical treatment staff or nursing direct care
19 staff member of a State psychiatric hospital to promptly notify the
20 chief executive officer of the hospital if the staff member also is
21 employed outside of the State psychiatric hospital. The notification
22 shall include the name of the employer and the number of hours per
23 day or week, as applicable, that the staff member is so employed. The
24 notification to the chief executive officer shall be confidential, and the
25 information shall only be used for the purpose of ensuring that the
26 outside employment does not create a conflict or interfere with the
27 staff member's duties and responsibilities at the State psychiatric
28 hospital.

29 The bill provides that if a staff member does not comply with the
30 notification requirement, subject to the provisions of Title 11A of the
31 New Jersey Statutes, the staff member shall be subject to salary and
32 promotion limitations or demotion, and in the case of deliberate
33 noncompliance with the notification requirement, removal from
34 employment.

35 The provisions of this bill address the findings and
36 recommendations of the Senate Task Force on Greystone Park
37 Psychiatric Hospital regarding staff supervision. The task force found
38 that staff supervision is problematic and fraught with conflict of
39 interest, and that staff scheduling is not necessarily in the patients' best
40 interest.

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44 Prohibits supervision of family members by certain staff at State
45 psychiatric hospitals; requires reporting of outside employment by
46 certain hospital staff members.