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H.610

Introduced by Representatives Koch of Barre Town, Clarkson of Woodstock
and Lenex of Shelburne

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; mental health; admission; minors

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to allow admission of a minor for
involuntary, inpatient mental health treatment with a parent's or legal
guardian's consent.

An act relating to the process for mental health treatment of minors

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 7503 is amended to read:

§ 7503. APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTARY ADMISSION

(a) Any ~~person~~ individual 14 years of age or over may apply for voluntary
admission to a designated hospital for examination and treatment.

(b) Before the ~~person~~ individual may be admitted as a voluntary patient, he
or she shall give ~~his~~ consent in writing on a form adopted by the department.

The consent shall include a representation that the ~~person~~ individual
understands that his or her treatment will involve inpatient status, and that he

1 or she desires to be admitted to the hospital; and that he or she consents to
2 admission voluntarily, without any coercion or duress.

3 (c) ~~If the person is~~ An individual under 14 years of age, ~~he~~ may be admitted
4 as a voluntary patient if ~~he consents to admission~~ his or her parent or legal
5 guardian consents to admission, as provided in subsection (b) of this section,
6 ~~and if a parent or guardian makes written application.~~

7 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, and apply to new applications for
9 admissions after that date.