

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this act to:

(1) enable the Commissioner of Mental Health to seek treatment for individuals at a secure residential recovery facility, regardless of a previous order of hospitalization, and at a psychiatric residential treatment facility for youth; and

(2) update the civil commitment procedures for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

(3) ensure the availability of designated programming in a secure, community-based setting for those individuals committed by court order to the custody of the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living who require custody, care, and habilitation, or continued custody, care, and habilitation, as defined in 18 V.S.A. chapter 206, subchapter 3.

(4) ensure that individuals committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living receive care in the most integrated and least restrictive setting to meet the individual's needs and to protect the public, that the legal rights of individuals committed to the Commissioner's custody are protected, and that, to the extent possible, services provided to individuals in the Commissioner's custody adhere to the principles set forth in 18 V.S.A. § 8724.

* * * Involuntary Commitment of Individuals with Mental Illness * * *

Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 4822 is amended to read: