WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1953

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 203

(By Mr. Bowler)

PASSED February 27, 1953

In Effect from Passage

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State"
ENROLLED

House Bill No. 203
(By Mr. Bowles)

[Passed February 27, 1953; in effect ninety days from passage]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section thirty-one, article five, chapter twenty-eight of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to mentally diseased convicts.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section thirty-one, article five, chapter twenty-eight of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 31. Mentally Diseased Convicts.—When any convict in any of the state's prisons becomes mentally ill before his or her term of sentence expires, it shall become the duty of the warden or superintendent of such prison to notify the board of control which in turn shall cause such convict, if a white male, to be sent to the criminal mentally ill building at the Weston state
hospital, or, if a white female, to the Weston state hospital and if colored, either male or female, to the Lakin state hospital at Lakin. It shall then be the duty of the examining board of the hospital in which such convict shall be confined to observe said convict for a period of thirty days. If it be determined that said convict is not mentally diseased he or she shall forthwith be returned to prison. If it be determined that said convict is mentally diseased then the examining board shall proceed in accordance with section three, article four, chapter twenty-seven of the code of West Virginia.

When it is determined that such mentally diseased convict has recovered he or she shall be returned forthwith to prison. Any time spent in the Weston state hospital or the Lakin state hospital shall be computed as part of the term for which he or she was sentenced. If the sentence of such convict expire while said convict is at the Weston state hospital or the Lakin state hospital then upon his or her recovery he or she shall be discharged from said hospital in accordance with section
seven, article four, chapter twenty-seven of the code of West Virginia.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House of Delegates

Takes effect thirty days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 5th day of March 1953.

Governor