

**59-2972. Transfer by secretary for aging and disability services.** (a) The secretary for aging and disability services or the secretary's designee may transfer any patient from any state psychiatric hospital under the secretary's control to any other state psychiatric hospital whenever the secretary or the secretary's designee considers it to be in the best interests of the patient. Except in the case of an emergency, the patient's spouse or nearest relative or legal guardian, if one has been appointed, shall be notified of the transfer, and notice shall be sent to the committing court not less than 14 days before the proposed transfer. The notice shall name the hospital to which the patient is proposed to be transferred to and state that, upon request of the spouse or nearest relative or legal guardian, an opportunity for a hearing on the proposed transfer will be provided by the secretary for aging and disability services prior to such transfer.

(b) The secretary for aging and disability services or the designee of the secretary may transfer any involuntary patient from any state psychiatric hospital to any state institution for people with intellectual disability whenever the secretary for aging and disability services or the designee of the secretary considers it to be in the best interests of the patient. Any patient transferred as provided for in this subsection shall remain subject to the same statutory provisions as were applicable at the psychiatric hospital from which the patient was transferred and in addition thereto shall abide by and be subject to all the rules and regulations of the institution for people with intellectual disability to which the patient has been transferred. Except in the case of an emergency, the patient's spouse or nearest relative or legal guardian, if one has been appointed, shall be notified of the transfer, and notice shall be sent to the committing court not less than 14 days before the proposed transfer. The notice shall name the institution to which the patient is proposed to be transferred to and state that, upon request of the spouse or nearest relative or legal guardian, an opportunity for a hearing on the proposed transfer will be provided by the secretary for aging and disability services prior to such transfer. No patient shall be transferred from a state psychiatric hospital to a state institution for people with intellectual disability unless the superintendent of the receiving institution has found, pursuant to K.S.A. 76-12b01 through 76-12b11, and amendments thereto, that the patient is a person with intellectual disability and in need of care and training and that placement in the institution is the least restrictive alternative available. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the secretary for aging and disability services or the designee of the secretary from allowing a patient at a state psychiatric hospital to be admitted as a voluntary resident to a state institution for people with intellectual disability, or from then discharging such person from the state psychiatric hospital pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2973, and amendments thereto, as may be appropriate.

**History:** L. 1996, ch. 167, § 28; L. 1997, ch. 152, § 11; L. 1998, ch. 134, § 51; L. 2012, ch. 91, § 37; L. 2014, ch. 115, § 211; July 1.