

if the board of directors of the existing merged district shall have first given its approval to a proposed merger with such additional districts.

APPROVED—The 14th day of July, A. D. 1961.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 316

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 12, 1951 (P. L. 533), entitled "An act relating to mental health, including mental illness, mental defect, epilepsy and inebriety; and amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," authorizing superintendents to exercise discretion by and with the advice of certain other physicians or surgeons with respect to the performance of surgery on certain patients.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

The Mental Health Act of 1951.

Section 1. Article IX., act of June 12, 1951 (P. L. 533), known as "The Mental Health Act of 1951," is amended by adding, at the end thereof, a new subarticle to read:

Article IX., act of June 12, 1951, P. L. 533, amended by adding a new subarticle (e).

Article IX.

Guardian Of The Person.

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(e) *Superintendent—Special Powers.*

Section 922. Special Powers of Superintendent.—In the case of any patient having no living parent, spouse nor issue nor next of kin, and for whom no legal guardian has been appointed, the superintendent may, in his discretion by and with the advice of two other physicians or surgeons not employed by the same institution, determine when elective surgery should be performed upon such patient as fully and to the same effect as if said superintendent had been appointed guardian and had applied to and received the approval of an appropriate court therefor.

APPROVED—The 14th day of July, A. D. 1961.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE