



TERRY E. BRANSTAD  
GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS  
LT. GOVERNOR

March 30, 2011

The Honorable Matthew Schultz  
Secretary of State of Iowa  
State Capitol Building  
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

Senate File 327, an Act relating to the disposition of a child with mental illness or mental retardation in juvenile court.

The above Senate File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad".

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

cc: Secretary of the Senate  
Clerk of the House



Senate File 327

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF A CHILD WITH MENTAL ILLNESS OR  
MENTAL RETARDATION IN JUVENILE COURT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 232.51, Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

**232.51 Disposition of child with mental illness or mental retardation.**

1. If the evidence received at an adjudicatory or a dispositional hearing indicates that the child is mentally ill, the court may direct the juvenile court officer or the department to initiate proceedings or to assist the child's parent or guardian to initiate civil commitment proceedings in the juvenile court. ~~These and such~~ proceedings in the juvenile court shall adhere to the requirements of chapter 229.

2. If the evidence received at an adjudicatory or a dispositional hearing indicates that the child is mentally retarded, the court may direct the juvenile court officer or the department to initiate proceedings or to assist the child's parent or guardian to initiate civil commitment proceedings in the juvenile court. ~~These and such~~ proceedings shall adhere to the requirements of chapter 222. ~~If the child is committed as a child with mental illness or mental retardation, any order adjudicating the child to have committed a delinquent act shall be set aside and the petition shall be dismissed.~~

3. a. If prior to the adjudicatory or dispositional hearing on the pending delinquency petition, the child is committed as a child with a mental illness or mental retardation and is ordered into a residential facility, institution, or hospital for inpatient treatment, the delinquency proceeding shall

be suspended until such time as the juvenile court either terminates the civil commitment order or the child is released from the residential facility, institution, or hospital for purposes of receiving outpatient treatment.

b. During any time that the delinquency proceeding is suspended pursuant to this subsection, any time limits for speedy adjudicatory hearings and continuances shall be tolled.

c. This subsection shall not apply to waiver hearings held pursuant to section 232.45.



JOHN P. KIBBIE

President of the Senate



KRAIG PAULSEN

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 327, Eighty-fourth General Assembly.



MICHAEL E. MARSHALL

Secretary of the Senate

Approved March 30, 2011



TERRY E. BRANSTAD

Governor