

ACTS, 1989. - Chap. 118.

victim or victims and the patient has the apparent intent and ability to carry out the threat, and the licensed mental health professional fails to take reasonable precautions as that term is defined in section one; or (b) the patient has a history of physical violence which is known to the licensed mental health professional and the licensed mental health professional has a reasonable basis to believe that there is a clear and present danger that the patient will attempt to kill or inflict serious bodily injury against a reasonably identified victim or victims and the licensed mental health professional fails to take reasonable precautions as that term is defined by said section one. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require a mental health professional to take any action which, in the exercise of reasonable professional judgment, would endanger such mental health professional or increase the danger to potential victim or victims.

(2) Whenever a licensed mental health professional takes reasonable precautions, as that term is defined in section one of chapter one hundred and twenty-three, no cause of action by the patient shall lie against the licensed mental health professional for disclosure of otherwise confidential communications.

SECTION 7. The sixth paragraph of section 20B of chapter 233 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1986 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "section", in line 89, the words:- and section thirty-six B of chapter one hundred and twenty-three.

Approved June 6, 1989.

Chapter 118. AN ACT ALLOWING WARD COMMITTEES TO FIX THEIR OWN NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 52 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 9, as appearing in the 1986 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 9. Ward and town committees, respectively, shall fix the number of members of ward and town committees to be elected at the presidential primaries, not less than three nor more than thirty-five for each ward and each town. Notice of the number of committee members to be elected shall be given by the ward or town committee, as the case may be, to the state secretary on or before August first of the year preceding the year in which said persons are to be elected. In case a ward or town committee fails to fix the number of members of a ward or town committee or to give such notice, the number of members of such ward or town committee to be elected shall be the number of members last so fixed or assigned.

Approved June 6, 1989.