

# Mental Health Act 1996, Tasmania

1996 – 2014

URL: [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/num\\_act/mha199631o1996174/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/num_act/mha199631o1996174/)

## Details

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The Mental Health Act 1996 sets out a number of principles relating to the treatment of involuntary patients in the Mental Health System by practitioners and the wider community. The Mental Health Act 1996 was repealed and replaced by the Mental Health Act 2013 on the 17 February 2014.

This legislation deals only with involuntary patients and according to a publication by the Hobart Community Legal Service Inc. aimed to ensure “high standards of care for people with mental illnesses, ensure patients are provided with appropriate information about their rights, and to promote recognition in the community of the rights of people with a mental illness. Other objects include reducing the adverse effects of mental illness on families, ensure equitable and comprehensive services, and achieve high standards of care and treatment” (Hobart Community Legal Service Inc, 2013).

This legislation existed alongside the Guardianship and Administration Act 1995 and in many cases these two pieces of legislation overlapped.

## More info

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### Chronology

- Mental Deficiency Act 1920, Tasmania (1920 - 1963)
  - Mental Health Act 1963, Tasmania (1963 - 1999)
- **Mental Health Act 1996, Tasmania (1996 – 2014)**
  - Mental Health Act 2013, Tasmania (2014 - current)

### Resources

- [Mental Health: Overview: The Mental Health Act 1996](#), Tasmanian Law Handbook, 2013
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/mental-health-act-1996/>