




Summary Report

Long-Term Involuntary Commitment Laws

Long-term involuntary commitment laws establish the process by which a person is placed into treatment in a health care facility. Every state has laws regulating long-term involuntary commitment, but states diverge on whether emergency commitment is required before long-term involuntary commitment, whether individuals may obtain an independent medical evaluation before a commitment hearing, and whether long-term involuntary commitment restricts the patient’s firearm rights. This report summarizes key findings from the Long-Term Involuntary Commitment Laws Map. Additional maps and tables are available at www.lawatlas.org.

	<p>Emergency Commitment Required before Long-Term Involuntary Commitment</p> <p>Fourteen states and D.C. require emergency commitment before a long-term involuntarily commitment.</p> <p>Jurisdictions: 15 (AK, AZ, CA, DC, DE, GA, MA, ME, MO, NM, OK, SD, VA, WA, WY)</p>
	<p>Independent Medical Evaluation</p> <p>Thirty-two states and D.C. allow individuals to obtain an independent medical evaluation before a commitment hearing.</p> <p>Jurisdictions: 33 (AK, AZ, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, LA, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV)</p>
	<p>Limitation of Firearm Rights</p> <p>All but four states (AK, KY, NH and VT) limit an individual’s rights to possess a firearm due to an involuntary commitment.</p> <p>Jurisdictions: 47 (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC,</p>