



# Mental Health Act 1959

## 1959 CHAPTER 72

### PART IX

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

##### *Offences*

#### **131 Prosecutions by local authorities**

- (1) A local health authority may institute proceedings for any offence under this Part of this Act, but without prejudice to any provision of this Part of this Act requiring the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions for the institution of such proceedings.
- (2) In relation to an offence under section one hundred and thirty of this Act in connection with the inspection of any premises, or the visiting, interviewing or examination of any patient, by a person authorised in that behalf by a registration authority within the meaning of Part III of this Act, subsection (1) of this section shall have effect as if the reference to a local health authority included a reference to that authority.