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Chapter VIII - Health

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Chapter VIII - Health

Director of Health

Private Acts of 1933 Chapter 809

SECTION 1. That the office of Director of Health of Marion County is hereby created. The Director of Health shall be elected by the people at the August election when other county officers are selected and shall hold office for a term of four years, beginning on September 1 following his election. The person selected as Director of Health shall be a resident of the County, the graduate of a reputable medical school and a person licensed to practice medicine in the State of Tennessee.

Until the election of a Director of Health at the regular August election in 1934, Dr. S.N. Anderson, who possesses the qualifications prescribed by this Act, is hereby designated to serve and act as Director of Health of Marion County.

In the event of a vacancy in the said office of Director of Health, the Quarterly County Court is authorized to select some person to fill the said office until the next regular county election for such officers.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to furnish medical and surgical attention to persons confined in the county jail, the county workhouse and the county poorhouse, whenever such persons require attention.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to co-operate with the State Department of Health and to carry into effect such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the said State Department of Health.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to investigate any case or suspected case of a communicable disease and on discovering that such disease exists, to isolate and quarantine the diseased person.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to investigate the purity and potability of any public water supply used in the county, and to take such steps under the laws of the State as any public health officer might take to prevent the using of contaminated water.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to enforce any and all health statutes of the State and to exercise such rights and powers as are by law vested in a county health officer or county physician.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to supervise the health and to exercise his powers and authority in municipalities of the county.

SECTION 2. That the Director of Health shall receive as compensation for his services a salary of \$480.00 per annum, payable monthly, out of the general funds of the county.

SECTION 3. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 20, 1933.

Indigent Hospital Care

Private Acts of 1931 Chapter 442

SECTION 1. That any county in this State having a population of not less than 17,545 nor more than 17,555, by the Federal Census of the year 1930, or any subsequent Census, is hereby authorized to appropriate and donate, to any hospital for the sick, located within or without said county, which engages wholly, or in part, in the work of caring for the indigent sick inhabitants of such county, free of cost, an amount not be exceed Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars per annum.

SECTION 2. Any appropriation made under this Act may be done by the Quarterly Court of such county, at a regular session, and limited to the remainder of the calendar year in which the appropriation is made.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court of any county making such appropriations, to issue to the treasurer of such hospital a warrant on the County Trustee, for any amount appropriated by the Quarterly Court under this Act, and said warrant shall be paid by the Trustee, out of any funds of said county in his hands, not otherwise appropriated.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: June 18, 1931.

Health - Historical Notes

The following summaries are included herein for reference purposes.

1. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 462, created the office of county physician, to be elected by the County Court for a four year term and to be paid \$75 per month for his services. This was repealed by Chapter 542 of the Private Acts of 1933.
2. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 766, stated that the County Physicians of all counties, with a population of not more than 17,410 nor less than 17,400 inhabitants according to the Federal Census of 1920, were to inspect ice manufacturers monthly for sanitary conditions.
3. Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 33, provided that a successor to the then current Marion County physician should be elected at the regular July term of the County Court in 1932 and every four years thereafter. This Act was amendatory to the original county physician act (Chapter 462 of 1921) listed above.

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