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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

Hospitals

Private Acts of 1931 Chapter 362

SECTION 1. That any county in this State, having a population of not less than 21,790 nor more than 21,800, by the Federal Census of the year 1930, or any subsequent Federal Census, is hereby authorized to appropriate and donate to any hospital for the sick, located in 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 to 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 appropriation, 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 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.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 5, 1931.

Sale of Health Care Facilities

Private Acts of 1983 Chapter 3

WHEREAS, Franklin County, Tennessee, owns health care facilities consisting of a hospital, a nursing home, medical clinical offices, and an ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of certain private acts, the health care facilities are located within the Franklin County general hospital district and are operated, managed and controlled by a board of trustees; and

WHEREAS, the board of county commissioners, as the duly constituted governing body of Franklin County, Tennessee, has determined that it is necessary, advisable and in the best interest of the citizens of Franklin County, Tennessee, that the health care facilities be sold in order to place the operation of the facilities on a more sound financial basis and to improve the quality of health care for the citizens of Franklin County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the board of county commissioners has reviewed the proposal of Methodist Health Systems, Inc. and believes that Methodist Health Systems, Inc. is the appropriate party to purchase the health care facilities and to insure their proper and continued operation; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The county legislative body is hereby authorized to sell the Franklin County hospital, the nursing home, medical clinical offices, ambulance service and all related facilities to a non-profit corporation, specifically Methodist Health Systems, Inc., upon such terms, including installment payments, as may be agreed upon by the county and the purchaser.

SECTION 2. Chapter 349 of the Private Acts of 1968, Chapter 290 of the Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 41 of the Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 13 of the Private Acts of 1981 and Chapter 73 of the Private Acts of 1981, are repealed.

SECTION 3. This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Franklin County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this Act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 3.

Passed: February 24, 1983.

Health - Historical Notes

The following summaries are included herein for reference purposes.

1. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 703, recited that G. C. Houghson actively engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry for 28 years, and was recognized during the World War in his profession and was in charge of a hospital in his profession for nine months. The act authorized him to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry in Tennessee including making tuberculin tests and issuing certificates in connection therewith, and directed the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue him a license without the necessity of undergoing examinations therefor.
2. Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 583, directed the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to issue a permanent license to G. C. Houghson to practice veterinary medicine, his having been issued previously two temporary licenses which were registered in the County Court Clerk's office. He would pay a fee of \$10.00 when the said license was issued. The spelling of the surname differed from the 1935 act above.
3. Private Acts of 1963, Chapter 201, created a non-profit hospital district and described the area included therein. It would be controlled by a Board of Trustees composed of five men and a chairman. The County Judge would be an ex-officio member of the Board. The act enumerated the specific powers of the Board and named Hoskin Shadow, James Gray, Alfred J. Gipson, Gordon Pogue, and James Henry Hawkins as the members of the first Board. It created the office of administrator and defined his duties. The act was not approved by local authorities and therefore did not become effective.
4. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, created the Franklin County Hospital District and established its management and operation in the same manner as the 1963 non-profit district act described above. The act and all its amendments were repealed by Private Acts of 1983, Chapter 3, reprinted herein.
5. Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 290, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, above, so that the hospital district would include the property known as Memorial Hospital Property and authorized the Board of Trustees of the hospital district to accept donations and gifts for the purpose of carrying on the business of the district.
6. Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 41, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, above, by increasing the membership of the Board of Trustees from five to six, by requiring two members of the board to be County Commissioners, and by removing the requirement that no member of the medical staff could be a member.
7. Private Acts of 1979, Chapter 152, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, above, relating to the powers of the Board of Trustees to borrow money. The act was not approved by local authorities.
8. Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 13, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, above, relating to the power of the Trustees to borrow money and enter into contracts.
9. Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 73, amended Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 349, above, by changing the boundaries of the Hospital District.

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