

CHAPTER 143**(SB 58)**

AN ACT relating to reorganization.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 11.550 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Telehealth Board is created and placed for administrative purposes under the Commonwealth Office of Technology. This ***ten (10)***~~*nine (9)*~~ member board shall consist of the:
 - (a) Chancellor, or a designee, of the medical school at the University of Kentucky;
 - (b) Chancellor, or a designee, of the medical school at the University of Louisville;
 - (c) Commissioner, or a designee, of the Department for Public Health;
 - (d) Executive director, or a designee, of the Commonwealth Office of Technology;~~and~~
 - (e) ***Chief information officer, or a designee, of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services; and***
 - (f) Five (5) members at large, appointed by the Governor, who are health professionals or third parties as those terms are defined in KRS 205.510. To ensure representation of both groups, no more than three (3) health professionals or two (2) third parties shall be members of the board at the same time. These members shall serve a term of four (4) years, may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms, and shall be reimbursed for their costs associated with attending board meetings.
- (2) The members shall elect a chair and hold bimonthly meetings or as often as necessary for the conduct of the board's business.
- (3) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to:
 - (a) Establish telehealth training centers at the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, the pediatric-affiliated hospitals at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville, and one (1) each in western Kentucky and eastern Kentucky, with the sites to be determined by the board;
 - (b) Develop a telehealth network, to coordinate with the training centers, of no more than twenty-five (25) rural sites, to be established based on the availability of funding and in accordance with criteria set by the board. In addition to these rural sites, the board may identify, for participation in the telehealth network, ten (10) local health departments, five (5) of which shall be administered by the University of Kentucky and five (5) of which shall be administered by the University of Louisville, and any other site that is operating as a telemedicine or telehealth site and that demonstrates its capability to follow the board's protocols and standards;
 - (c) Establish protocols and standards to be followed by the training centers and rural sites; and
 - (d) Maintain the central link for the network with the Kentucky information highway.
- (4) The board shall, following consultation with the Commonwealth Office of Technology, recommend the processes and procedures for the switching and running of the telehealth network.
- (5) The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville shall report semiannually to the Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare on the following areas as specified by the board through an administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A.
 - (a) Data on utilization, performance, and quality of care;
 - (b) Quality assurance measures, including monitoring systems;
 - (c) The economic impact on and benefits to participating local communities; and
 - (d) Other matters related to telehealth at the discretion of the board.
- (6) The board shall receive and dispense funds appropriated for its use by the General Assembly or obtained through any other gift or grant.

Section 2. In order to reflect the reorganization effectuated by this Act, the reviser of statutes shall replace references in the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the agencies, subagencies, and officers affected by this Act with references to the appropriate successor agencies, subagencies, and officers established by this Act. The reviser of statutes shall base these actions on the functions assigned to the new entities by this Act and may consult with officers of the affected agencies, or their designees, to receive suggestions.

Section 3. The General Assembly confirms Executive Order 2005-1286, increasing the membership of the Telehealth Board, to the extent it is not otherwise confirmed by this Act.

Approved April 4, 2006.