

1 AN ACT relating to public health.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 212.170 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) The county board of health of each county having a county department of health
5 shall, subject to the approval of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, appoint
6 a health officer who shall, subject to merit system provisions, hold office at the
7 pleasure of both the county board and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.
- 8 (2) A health officer may:
- 9 (a) With the approval of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the local
10 boards of health concerned, serve in such capacity for more than one county;
11 and
- 12 (b) At the discretion of the local board, act as chief administrative officer of the
13 board.
- 14 (3) A health officer may appoint an administrative assistant for each county served by
15 him ***or her*** subject to the approval of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.
16 An administrative assistant shall exercise such duties as may be delegated to him ***or***
17 ***her*** by the health officer.
- 18 (4) A health officer may employ and fix the compensation of, by contract or otherwise,
19 subject to the approval of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, all medical,
20 technical, clerical, professional, and other employees necessary for the maintenance
21 and operation of the local health department in accordance with standards and merit
22 system provisions prescribed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.
- 23 (5) In the absence of a local health officer, the secretary for health and family services
24 or his duly appointed representative shall serve as health officer for the county
25 concerned.
- 26 (6) Appeals under the local health department merit system shall be conducted in
27 accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.