

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
SUBCHAPTER B. HEALTH AUTHORITIES

Sec. 121.021. HEALTH AUTHORITY. A health authority is a physician appointed under the provisions of this chapter to administer state and local laws relating to public health within the appointing body's jurisdiction.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.
Amended by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 118, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

Sec. 121.022. QUALIFICATIONS. (a) A health authority must be:

(1) a competent physician with a reputable professional standing who is legally qualified to practice medicine in this state; and

(2) a resident of this state.

(b) To be qualified to serve as a health authority, the appointee must:

(1) take and subscribe to the official oath; and

(2) file a copy of the oath and appointment with the board.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Sec. 121.023. TERM OF OFFICE. A health authority serves for a term of two years and may be appointed to successive terms.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Sec. 121.024. DUTIES. (a) A health authority is a state officer when performing duties prescribed by state law.

(b) A health authority shall perform each duty that is:

(1) necessary to implement and enforce a law to protect the public health; or

(2) prescribed by the board.

(c) The duties of a health authority include:

(1) establishing, maintaining, and enforcing quarantine in the health authority's jurisdiction;

(2) aiding the board in relation to local quarantine, inspection, disease prevention and suppression, birth and death statistics, and general sanitation in the health authority's jurisdiction;

(3) reporting the presence of contagious, infectious, and dangerous epidemic diseases in the health authority's jurisdiction to the board in the manner and at the times prescribed by the board;

(4) reporting to the board on any subject on which it is proper for the board to direct that a report be made; and

(5) aiding the board in the enforcement of the following in the health authority's jurisdiction:

(A) proper rules, requirements, and ordinances;

(B) sanitation laws;

(C) quarantine rules; and

(D) vital statistics collections.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Sec. 121.025. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE. A health authority may be removed from office for cause under the personnel procedures applicable to the heads of departments of the local government that the health authority serves.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.