

Health

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

State Board of Health

Chairman: Perry F. Prather, M.D.

Huntington Williams, M.D., Dr.P.H.,
Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City

A. Austin Pearre, M.D., 1961; A. L. Penniman, Jr., C.E., 1961;
Lloyd N. Richardson, Phar.D., 1963; Ralph J. Young, M.D.,
1963; George M. Anderson, D.D.S., 1965; Aaron Deitz, M.D.,
1965.

Perry F. Prather, M.D., Director

Edward Davens, M.D., Deputy Director

V. L. Ellicott, M.D., Dr.P.H., Chief, Bureau of Medical
Services and Hospitals

John Whitridge, Jr., M.D., Chief, Bureau of Preventive
Medicine

Leon H. Hetherington, M.D., Chief, Bureau of Tuberculosis

C. A. Perry, Sc.D., Chief, Bureau of Laboratories

Robert M. Brown, M.P.H., Chief, Bureau of Environmental
Hygiene

Clemens W. Gaines, Chief, Bureau of Management

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The State Department of Health, established in 1874, is governed by the State Board of Health. The Board is composed of the Director of the Department, who also serves as chairman; the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City; and six members appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to serve six-year terms (Code 1957, Art. 43, sec. 1).

The Department of Health serves the State through twenty-three county health departments, each of which is in the charge of a health officer, who serves as the Deputy State Health Officer for his county. For regulatory purposes the Baltimore County Council, the Montgomery County Council, and the Board of County Commissioners in each of the other counties serves ex officio as the county board of health (Code 1957, Art. 43, secs. 6-10, 45-53).

The State Board of Health has broad and inclusive powers over health and hygiene. It collects, studies, and publishes communicable disease data; makes laboratory analyses of water, sewage, trade wastes, milk products, food, drugs, and other materials that may be responsible for the transmission of infectious diseases; examines and supervises public and private water supplies, sewage disposal, ventilation, and heat and lighting in public institutions and controls nuisances; registers, tabulates, and publishes vital statistics (including birth, death, and marriage records); studies the causes of death and illness among mothers and young children and provides services for mothers and children; administers a medical care program for indigent and medically indigent residents of Maryland's counties; operates the hospitals placed under the Board's jurisdiction; investigates complaints made by physicians or affected citizens; licenses midwives; and makes laboratory tests of food and drug specimens to assure compliance with laws prohibiting adulteration and misbranding, and prosecutes violators (Code 1957, Art. 43, secs. 33-44).

To carry out these duties the Board of Health has established within the Department six bureaus as follows: Bureau of Laboratories; Bureau of Preventive Medicine, including Divisions of Maternal and