

## CHAPTER 200.

## AN ACT to establish a State Board of Health.

Appoint State  
Board of Health

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint five physicians, of whom one shall always be a resident of one of the counties of the western, and one of the eastern shore, who shall constitute the State Board of Health; the physicians so appointed shall hold their office for two years, and until their successors are appointed, and all vacancies in the board shall be filled by the Governor.

Duties

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the State Board of Health shall take cognizance of the interests of health and life among the people generally; they shall make sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting the causes of diseases, especially of epidemics, the sources of mortality and the effects of localities, employments, conditions, and circumstances on the public health, and they shall gather such information in respect to these matters as they may deem proper; they shall devise some scheme whereby medical and vital statistics of sanitary value may be obtained, and act as an advisory board to the State in all hygienic and medical matters; they shall make special inspections of public hospitals, prisons, asylums, and other institutions, when directed by the Governor or the Legislature, and shall at each regular session of the Legislature submit a full report of their acts, investigations, and discoveries with such suggestions as they may deem proper.

Meetings

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the State Board of Health shall meet at least once in every three months, and as much oftener as they may deem proper; their first meeting shall be held within two weeks after their appointment shall have been made, and three members shall always constitute a quorum for business; they shall elect from their own number a President and a permanent Secretary, the latter of whom shall be the executive officer of the board; no member of the board except the secretary shall receive any compensation, but the actual travelling expenses