
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6384

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators Drew and Roach)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to boards of trustees for county hospitals;
2 amending RCW 36.62.110, 36.62.120, 36.62.150, and 36.62.160; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that county hospitals
6 that are used as primary university teaching hospitals serve vital
7 public interests by treating the poor and infirm and by providing
8 clinical resources unique in the state. It is the intent of this act
9 to restructure the governance of these hospitals to further those
10 interests and to strengthen their economic viability.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.62.110 and 1984 c 26 s 8 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, whenever
14 any county, or any county and city jointly, or two or more counties
15 jointly, establish a hospital for the care and treatment of the
16 indigent, sick, injured, or infirm, under the provisions of this
17 chapter, and such hospital is completed and ready for operation, the
18 county legislative authority of the county in which the institution is

1 located shall appoint thirteen persons as trustees for the institution.
2 The thirteen trustees, together with the additional trustees required
3 by RCW 36.62.130, if any, shall constitute a board of trustees for such
4 hospital.

5 (2) In the case of a hospital established prior to the effective
6 date of this 1994 act in a class AA county, the governor shall appoint,
7 subject to confirmation by the senate, three trustees in the manner
8 provided in RCW 36.62.120, and the county legislative authority shall
9 appoint sixteen trustees.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 36.62.120 and 1984 c 26 s 9 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the first
13 members of the board of trustees of ((such)) the institution shall be
14 appointed by the county legislative authority within thirty days after
15 the institution has been completed and is ready for operation. The
16 county legislative authority appointing the initial members shall
17 appoint three members for one-year terms, three members for two-year
18 terms, three members for three-year terms, and four members for four-
19 year terms, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, and
20 thereafter their successors shall be appointed for terms of four years
21 and until their successors are appointed and qualified((:—PROVIDED,
22 That)). However, the continuation of a member past the expiration date
23 of the term shall not change the commencement date of the term of the
24 succeeding member. Each term of the initial trustees shall be deemed
25 to commence on the first day of August following the appointment but
26 shall also include the period intervening between the appointment and
27 the first day of August following the appointment.

28 ~~((For an institution which is already in existence on June 7, 1984,~~
29 ~~the county legislative authority shall appoint within thirty days of~~
30 ~~June 7, 1984, three additional members for one year terms, two~~
31 ~~additional members for two year terms, and two additional members for~~
32 ~~three year terms, and until their successors are appointed and~~
33 ~~qualified, and thereafter their successors shall be appointed for terms~~
34 ~~of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified:~~
35 ~~PROVIDED FURTHER, That the continuation of an additional member past~~
36 ~~the expiration date of the term shall not change the commencement date~~
37 ~~of the term of the succeeding member. Each term of the initial~~
38 ~~additional members shall be deemed to commence on the first day of~~

1 August of the year of appointment but shall also include the period
2 intervening between the appointment and the first day of August of the
3 year of the appointment.

4 Upon expiration of the terms of current members, the successors to
5 current members shall be appointed for four year terms and until their
6 successors are appointed and qualified: ~~AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the~~
7 ~~continuation of a successor to a current member past the expiration~~
8 ~~date of the term shall not change the commencement date of the term of~~
9 ~~the succeeding member. Each term of the initial successors to current~~
10 ~~members shall be deemed to commence on the first day of August~~
11 ~~following the expiration of a current term but shall also include the~~
12 ~~period intervening between the appointment and the first day of August~~
13 ~~of the year of the appointment.)) (2) In the case of a hospital~~
14 ~~established prior to the effective date of this 1994 act in a class AA~~
15 ~~county:~~

16 (a) The governor shall appoint one member of the board of trustees
17 for a term of four years beginning August 1, 1994; one member for a
18 term of three years beginning August 1, 1994; and one member for a term
19 of four years beginning August 1, 1995. Thereafter, their successors
20 shall be appointed for terms of four years; and

21 (b) Any persons serving as members of the board on the effective
22 date of this 1994 act may continue to serve for the remainder of the
23 terms to which the persons were appointed. Thereafter, their
24 successors shall be appointed for terms of four years unless the county
25 legislative authority elects, on a one-time basis, to make any
26 appointments for a lesser term in order to achieve more evenly
27 staggered terms.

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 36.62.150 and 1984 c 26 s 12 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) The county legislative authority which appointed a member of
31 the board of trustees may remove the member for cause and in the manner
32 provided in this section. Notice shall be provided by the county
33 appointing authority to the trustee and the board of trustees
34 generally. The notice shall set forth reasons which justify removal.
35 The trustee shall be provided opportunity for a hearing before the
36 county appointing authority(~~and~~ ~~PROVIDED, That~~)). However, three
37 consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings of the board of
38 trustees shall be deemed cause for removal of a trustee without

1 hearing. Any trustee removed for a cause other than three consecutive
2 unexcused absences may appeal the removal within twenty days of the
3 order of removal by seeking a writ of review before the superior court
4 (~~pursuant to~~) under chapter 7.16 RCW. Removal shall disqualify the
5 trustee from subsequent reappointment.

6 (2) Members of the board of trustees appointed by the governor
7 under RCW 36.62.110 may be removed under RCW 43.06.070.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 36.62.160 and 1984 c 26 s 13 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 Any vacancy in the board of trustees shall be filled by appointment
11 by the (~~county—legislative~~) authority making the original
12 appointment, and (~~such~~) the appointee shall hold office for the
13 remainder of the term of the trustee replaced.

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