TITLE XV.

Public Health.

CHAPTER 140

HEALTH; ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION

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140.01 Definitions. As used in chs. 140 to 143, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Department" means the department of health and social services.
- (2) "Secretary" means the secretary of health and social services.
- (3) "State health planning agency" has the meaning designated in s. 150.001 (11).

 History: 1975 c. 39; 1977 c. 29; 1977 c. 203 s. 106

140.02 State health officer; duties. The secretary shall appoint a state health officer in the unclassified service and may assign the health officer such duties of the secretary or department as the secretary provides. The state health officer may appoint such advisory and examining bodies as provided by law.

History: 1973 c. 90; 1975 c. 39, 199.

140.05 Powers and duties. (1) The department shall have general supervision throughout the state of the health and life of citizens, and

shall study especially the vital statistics of the state and endeavor to put the same to profitable use. It shall make sanitary investigations into the causes of disease, especially epidemics, the causes of mortality, and the effect on health of localities, employments, conditions, habits and circumstances, and make sanitary inspections and surveys in all parts of the state. It may, upon due notice, enter upon and inspect private property. It shall have power to execute what is reasonable and necessary for the prevention and suppression of disease. It shall voluntarily or when required, advise public boards or officers in regard to heating and ventilation of any public building or institution. It may investigate the cause and circumstances of any special or unusual disease or mortality, or inspect any public building; and shall have full authority to do any act necessary therefor. The department shall possess all powers necessary to fulfill the duties prescribed in the statutes and to bring

action in the courts for the enforcement of health laws and health rules.

- (2) The department shall disseminate such health information as it deems proper. It shall recommend from time to time works of hygiene for use in the public schools and shall cooperate with the several educational institutions and the school system of this state in disseminating information to the general public in all matters pertaining to health, and shall use the research facilities of the university of Wisconsin for the preservation and improvement of the public health under such rules and regulations as may be agreed upon with the board of regents of the university of Wisconsin system, and facilitate the special instruction of students in sanitation, hygiene and vital statistics in any school or department of the university of Wisconsin in manner not inconsistent with and not interfering with the orderly and efficient administration of the public health work.
- (3) The department shall have power to make and enforce such rules, regulations and orders governing the duties of all health officers and health boards, and relating to any subject matter under its supervision, as shall be necessary to provide efficient administration and to protect health, and any person violating such rule, regulation or order shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$100 for each offense, unless penalty be specially provided
- (4) The department may administer oaths, certify to official acts, issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses, and production of papers, books, documents and testimony. Witness fees and mileage shall be paid by the state and charged to the appropriation for the department, but no witness subpoenaed at the instance of parties other than the department shall be entitled to fees or mileage from the state, unless the department certifies that his testimony was material.
- (5) The department shall keep a full and complete record of proceedings before it on any investigation, and have all testimony taken by its stenographer.
- (7) The department may make and enforce rules relating to lot size and lot elevation necessary for proper sanitary conditions in the development and maintenance of subdivisions not served by a public sewer, where provision for such service has not been made.
- (9) The department may establish, equip and operate a state branch laboratory of hygiene in a city accessible to physicians and health officers in the northern part of the state for the conducting of bacteriological and chemical examinations of material from the various contagious and infectious diseases or material from

- suspected contagious and infectious diseases of persons and animals when public health is concerned; on condition that suitable quarters for such laboratory shall be offered to the state free of charge for rent, light, heat and janitor service. The department may also establish and aid in maintaining in conjunction with the cities of the state not more than 7 state cooperative laboratories. All such cooperative laboratories shall be operated in such manner and under such conditions as the department may determine in its rules and regulations governing the state public health laboratories.
- (11) Any physician knowing or having reason to know that a patient treated or visited by him has cancer, carcinoma, sarcoma or other malignant growths shall report the same to the department, in writing, on blanks furnished by said department and as it directs. These reports shall be confidential and not open to public inspection.
- (12) The department may make transcripts of its records for governmental agencies upon their request and payment of the fees mutually agreed upon.
- (14) The department may conduct investigations, studies, experiments and research pertaining to any public health problems which are a cause or potential cause of morbidity or mortality and methods for the prevention or amelioration of such public health problems. For the conduct of such investigations, studies, experiments and research, the department may on behalf of the state accept funds from any public or private agency, organization or person. It may conduct such investigations, studies, experiments and research independently or by contract or in cooperation with any public or private agency, organization or person including any political subdivision of the state.
- (15) Where the use of any pesticide results in a threat to the public health, the department of health and social services shall take all measures necessary to prevent morbidity or mortality.
- (16) The department shall carry out a state-wide immunization program to eliminate measles, rubella (German measles), diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, and protect against tetanus. Evidence of completed basic and recall (booster) series as required by the department or signed permission to administer needed vaccines in public clinics must be presented prior to first time admission into any elementary school or into any day care center or nursery school. These requirements may be waived for an individual student for health or religious reasons. The department shall provide the vaccine without charge, if federal funds are available for the vaccine, upon request of the

governing body of a county, city, village or town or the school boards of a school district operating a high school. The department shall provide the necessary professional consultant services to carry out an immunization program in the requesting county, municipality or school district. There shall be no charge to the persons immunized for the cost of the vaccine furnished by the department. The department shall, by rule, prescribe the mechanisms for monitoring compliance with this section.

(17) The department shall license and regulate campgrounds and camping resorts, recreational and educational camps, mobile home parks, and public swimming pools. No person, state or local government may conduct, maintain, manage or operate a campground and camping resort, recreational camp and educational camp, mobile home park or public swimming pool, as defined by departmental rule, who has not been issued an annual license by the department. A separate license shall be required for each type of establishment and public swimming pool. Licenses shall not be transferable from one premise to another or from one person, state or local government to another. The annual nonreturnable and nonprorated license fee for all places coming under this section shall be \$25 for recreational and educational camps, \$25 for public swimming pools, a graduated fee up to a maximum fee of \$100 for campgrounds and camping resorts, and a graduated fee up to a maximum fee of \$100 for mobile home parks. The department shall establish the graduated fees for campgrounds and camping resorts and for mobile home parks by rule. All such licenses shall expire on June 30. An additional penalty fee of \$10 shall be required for each license whenever the annual fee for renewal is not paid prior to expiration of the license. Anyone violating this section or any rule of the department under this section shall be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$250 and anyone failing to comply with an order of the department shall forfeit \$10 for each day of noncompliance after the order is served upon or directed to him or her and in the case of action under sub. (20), after lapse of a reasonable time after final determination.

- (18) The department shall investigate any hospital which is found by a panel established under s. 655.02 or by a court to have been responsible for negligent acts.
- (19) (a) In this subsection "local health department" means any board of health organized or health officer appointed under ss. 140.09, 141.01 (9), 141.015, 141.02 and

141.04; any county health commission organized under s. 141.01; and any county health committee organized under s. 141.06.

(b) The department shall develop a vision screening kit for testing children under 5 years of age which may be used by a parent to test a child for amblyopia, or any other vision problems as the department determines may feasibly be tested through the use of such a kit. The department shall provide the vision screening kits free of charge to any local health department which requests them in a quantity sufficient for every child under the age of 5 years who resides within the appropriate local health department's jurisdiction. The department shall reimburse each local health department for reasonable costs in publicizing the program, for the cost of postage and envelopes necessary to mail the kits and for reasonable expenses incurred by the local health department in assisting parents in the administration of the various tests and in arranging for referral for further diagnosis and treatment. Each local health department shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in contacting parents to determine the results of the tests. The results of the vision screening program shall be reported to the department in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may develop and coordinate efforts to publicize the program Expenditures under this paragraph, payable under s. 20.435 (1) (a), shall not exceed \$40,200 annually

(21) If fees are assessed by local units of government for locally administered regulation and inspection of campgrounds and camping resorts, recreational and educational camps, mobile home parks and public swimming pools, the department may not assess a license fee under sub (17). Such locally administered activities shall meet the provisions of administrative rules adopted by the department for such regulatory and inspection activities before a license may be issued

History: 1971 c. 100 s. 23; 1973 c. 90; 1975 c. 37, 39; 1975 c. 94 s. 91 (9); 1975 c. 292, 422; 1977 c. 29, 418

See note to art. I, sec. 7, citing 63 Atty. Gen. 176.

140.055 Sanitary supervision of county institutions. (1) The department shall investigate and supervise the sanitary conditions of all the charitable, curative, reformatory and penal institutions of every county and other municipality, all detention homes for children and all industrial schools, hospitals, asylums and institutions, organized for the purposes set forth in s. 58.01

(2) The department shall annually and oftener, if necessary, and whenever required by the governor, visit the jails, municipal prisons, houses of correction and all other places in

which persons convicted or suspected of crime or insane persons are confined and ascertain the sanitary conditions thereof.

(3) Section 46.16 (8) and (9) shall apply to such investigations and visitations except that the expenses thereof shall be charged to the appropriation made to the department.

140.07 Districts; district health officers.

- (1) The department shall from time to time divide the state into sanitary districts, not exceeding 10, and it shall appoint for each a district health officer, who shall hold office during efficiency and good behavior and who may be removed for cause by the department after opportunity to be heard. He shall not during his term of office engage in any occupation which would conflict with his official duties
- (2) The district health officer shall have jurisdiction throughout his district; and he shall have in pursuit of his official duties right of entry into any workshop, factory, dairy, creamery, slaughterhouse or other place of business or employment. He shall carry out the instructions of the department and make such investigations and reports as the department may require. He shall, when required by the department with the help of local health officers, inspect and report upon the sanitary conditions of streams and sources of public water supplies, schools and schoolhouses, dairies, creameries, slaughterhouses, workshops and factories, and of all places where offensive industries are conducted.
- (3) The district health officer shall make careful inquiry, when required by the department, into the effects of the different kinds of employment upon the health of employes and operators, with special reference to tuberculosis and to lead and phosphorous poisoning and other industrial diseases, and in all such investigations and inquiries he shall have the power to administer oaths. He shall enforce any public health statute, or rule or regulation of the department or of any local board of health or health officer when such local board of health or health officer neglects or refuses to enforce such statute, rule or regulation, after due notice by him or by the department
- (4) The district health officer, under the direction of the department and subject to laws, rules and regulations relating to public health, shall:
- (a) Keep himself informed as to the work of each local health officer.
- (b) Aid each local health officer in the performance of his duties, and particularly on the appearance of communicable disease, and he shall respond promptly when called upon for

advice or assistance by any board of health or health officer

- (c) Assist each local health officer in making an annual sanitary survey and in maintaining a continuous sanitary supervision
- (d) Adjust questions of jurisdiction arising between local health officers
- (e) Study the causes of excessive mortality from any disease in any portion of his district.
- (f) Promote efficient registration of marriages, births, fetal deaths and deaths
- (h) Endeavor to enlist the co-operation of all organizations of physicians within his district in the improvement of the public health therein.

History: 1971 c 211

- 140.08 Local and state conferences. (1) The department, directly or through district health officers, may call a biennial state conference of health officers, and may call local conferences.
- (2) District health officers and local health officers shall attend such conferences, but local officers need not attend more than one state and one local conference a year
- (3) The expense of attendance of local health officers shall be paid by the municipality, upon certificate of the state or district health officer, but only for one state and one local conference a year.

140.09 County, city-county and multiple county health departments. (1) DEFINITIONS. As used in this section:

- (a) "County health department" and "county board of health" refer to a single county health department or board of health, a multiple county health department or board of health, or a city-county health department or board of health.
- (b) "County health officer" refers to the position of a health officer either in a county health department, multiple county health department or city-county health department.
- (c) "Health department" means a full-time health department unless otherwise specified and refers to one whose personnel, other than consultants and clinicians, devote their full time to health department duties.
- (2) POWER OF COUNTY BOARD. Any county board may organize a single county department of health, or a city-county department of health or may join with one or more adjacent counties to organize a multiple county department of health. But no more than 3 counties shall join in one such department without prior approval of the department of health and social services.

- (3) COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH. (a) Each single county health department shall be managed by a board of health, consisting of not less than 6 nor more than 8 members, appointed by the chairman of the county board with the approval of the county board. One member shall be a member of the county board. Two members shall be physicians, practicing in the county, and shall be selected from a list of 5 physicians submitted by the county medical society. One member shall be a dentist, practicing in the county, and shall be selected from a list of 3 dentists submitted by the county dental society. If the county medical or dental society fails to submit such list within 60 days after request by the county board chairman, the county board may appoint 2 physicians and one dentist of its choice. One member shall be a registered nurse with experience in community health practice The remaining members shall be residents of the county who are known to have a broad social viewpoint and a serious interest in the health protection of their community. The first appointee will serve one year, the second 2 years, the third 3 years, fourth 4 years, fifth 5 years, sixth one year, seventh, if any, 2 years, eighth, if any, 3 years, and their successors shall each serve for 5 years. Terms shall begin on anniversary dates of the organization of the board of health.
- (b) Each multiple county health department shall be managed by a board of health consisting of 4 members appointed from each county by the chairman of the respective county board with the approval of the county board. One shall be a member of the county board. One shall be a physician practicing in the county selected from a list of 3 physicians submitted by the county medical society. One shall be a dentist practicing in the county selected from a list of 3 dentists submitted by the county dental society. The 4th member shall be a registered nurse with experience in community health practice. The term of office will be for 5 years except that the first appointee of each county board will be for 2 years, the second for 3 years, the third for 4 years and the fourth for 5 years. Terms shall begin on the anniversary dates of the organizations of the board of health.
- (c) A county board and a city council for a city located in a county may organize a joint city-county department of health. Such city-county health department shall be managed by a board of health consisting of 8 members. One member shall be a member of the city council and shall be appointed by the mayor or city manager with the approval of the council. One member shall be a member of the county board and shall be appointed by the chairman of the county board with the approval of the board.

- Two members shall be physicians practicing in the county selected from a list of 5 physicians furnished by the county medical society. One such physician shall be appointed by the chairman of the county board with the approval of the board and one by the mayor or city manager with approval of the council. One member shall be a dentist practicing in the county and shall be appointed by the chairman of the county board with approval of the board from a list of 3 dentists submitted by the county dental society. One member shall be a registered nurse with experience in community health practice. Two members shall be residents of the county and shall be persons of ability and known to have a broad social viewpoint and a serious interest in the health protection of the community. The chairman of the county board, with the approval of the county board, shall appoint one such member and the mayor or city manager, with the approval of the council, shall appoint the other. The first member appointed shall hold office for one year, the second member for 2 years, the third member 3 years, the fourth member 4 years, the fifth member 5 years, the sixth member one year, the seventh member 2 years and the eighth member 3 years. Their successors shall each hold office for 5 years. Terms shall begin on anniversary dates of the organization of the board of health.
- (4) HEALTH OFFICER, ELIGIBILITY, DUTIES. The board of health shall appoint a county health officer who shall be a licensed physician especially trained in public health administration, or in lieu thereof shall be a person, other than a physician, with training or experience in public health administration, and in either case, except in counties covered by ss. 63.01 to 63.17, said health officer shall meet training and experience requirements established by the department; provided that if the appointee is not a physician, the local board of health shall arrange for and provide in addition, such service of a licensed physician as may be necessary on either a part-time or full-time basis and provide reasonable compensation therefor. The health officer shall be appointed for a term agreed upon by the board and shall be subject to removal by a two-thirds vote of the board. The county department of health shall be under the immediate direction of the county health officer, who shall give his entire time to the work.
- (5) Organization of Board of Health The board of health of each county, multiple county or city-county unit shall immediately after appointment meet and organize by the election of one of its members as president and one as secretary, to hold office for a term of one

year. The county board may determine appropriate compensation or reimbursement for expenses of board of health members.

- (6) BOARD'S POWERS. The county board of health when established in any county shall have all the powers and authority now vested in local boards of health and local health officers and shall have authority to enforce such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the department under the laws of the state. It may adopt such rules for its own guidance and for the government of the health department as may be deemed necessary to protect and improve public health, not inconsistent with state law nor with rules and regulations of the department. The county board of supervisors shall determine compensation of health department employes.
- (7) DUTIES OF THE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER. The county health officer shall have charge of the county department of health and perform the duties prescribed by the county board of health. He shall enforce this section and the regulations of the department of health and social services and local boards of health and have supervisory power over all officers or employes of the county health department. He shall submit to the board of health, county board of supervisors and city council an annual report of the administration of his department.
- (8) LOCAL EMPLOYES. The county health officer shall appoint, subject to the approval of the county board of health, all necessary subordinate personnel.
- (9) PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGULATIONS. The orders and regulations of the county board of health shall be published as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and shall take effect immediately after publication.
- (10) LOCAL BOARDS AND OFFICERS ABOLISHED. Whenever a county board provides for a county department of health, the boards of health and health officers in all towns, cities and villages within such county shall be abolished, except as provided in subsection (11).
- (11) JURISDICTION OF COUNTY; LOCAL OPTION. The jurisdiction of the county department of health shall extend to all towns, villages and cities within the county, other than those having a full-time health department. Towns, cities and villages having full-time health departments may by vote of their governing bodies determine to come under such jurisdiction. No part of any expense incurred under this subsection shall be levied against any property within any city, village or town which has a full-time health department and which has not determined to come under the jurisdiction of the county department.

- (12) OFFICES, APPROPRIATIONS. Whenever provision is made for a single county department of health, the county is empowered to provide office facilities and appropriate funds necessary for the maintenance of the work. The board of health of such department shall annually prepare a budget of its proposed expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year.
- (13) GIFTS; COUNTY CO-OPERATING. The county board of health may receive gifts and donations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section.
- (14) JOINT HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, HOW FI-NANCED. The board of health of every multiple county health department and of every citycounty health department created under this section shall annually prepare a budget of its proposed expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year and determine the proportionate cost to each participating county and city on the basis of equalized valuation. A certified copy of such budget, which shall include a statement of the amount required from each county and city, shall be delivered to the county board of each participating county and to the mayor or city manager of each participating city. The appropriation to be made by each participating county and municipality shall be determined by the governing body thereof. No part of the cost apportioned to the county shall be levied against any property within such city.
- (15) JOINT HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUNDS. In the treasurer's office of the county wherein is located the principal office of each multiple county or city-county health department, or in the office of the city treasurer of a participating city, as determined by the board of health, there shall be created a joint health department fund. The treasurer of each county and city participating in such health department shall annually pay or cause to be paid into said fund the share of such county or city. This fund shall be expended by the treasurer in whose office said fund is kept in the manner prescribed by the county board of health pursuant to properly authenticated vouchers of such health department signed by the county health officer
- (16) COUNTY NURSES. When a county health department is established county nurses shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the county health department and county health committees shall cease functioning.
- (17) WIIHDRAWAL OF COUNTIES AND CITIES. After establishment of a multiple county health department any participating county may withdraw by giving written notice to its board of health and the county board of supervisors of all other participating counties. Such notice shall be given at least one year prior to

commencement of the fiscal year at which it takes effect. Cities having full-time health departments prior to their decision to participate in a city-county health department may withdraw therefrom in the same manner. Whenever any county or city shall withdraw from any health department established under this section all provisions of law relating to local boards of health and health officers shall immediately become applicable within such county or city.

History: 1971 c 164; 1975 c 234; 1977 c 331

140.42 Abortion refused; no liability; no discrimination. (1) No hospital shall be required to admit any patient or to allow the use of the hospital facilities for the purpose of performing a sterilization procedure or removing a human embryo or fetus. A physician or any other person who is a member of or associated with the staff of a hospital, or any employe of a hospital in which such a procedure has been authorized, who shall state in writing his objection to the performance of or providing assistance to such a procedure on moral or religious grounds shall not be required to participate in such medical procedure, and the refusal of any such person to participate therein shall not form the basis of any claim for damages on account of such refusal or for any disciplinary or recriminatory action against such person.

(2) No hospital or employe of any hospital shall be liable for any civil damages resulting from a refusal to perform sterilization procedures or remove a human embryo or fetus from a person, if such refusal is based on religious or moral precepts.

- (3) No hospital or employer shall discriminate against any employe or applicant for employment with regard to hiring or firing, tenure or term or condition or privilege of employment, on the ground that such employe or applicant refuses to perform sterilization procedures or to remove or aid in the removal of a human embryo or fetus, if such refusal is based on religious or moral precepts.
- (4) The receipt of any grant, contract, loan or loan guarantee under any state or federal law does not authorize any court or any public official or other public authority to require:
- (a) Such individual to perform or assist in the performance of any sterilization procedure or removal of a human embryo or fetus if his performance or assistance in the performance of such a procedure would be contrary to his religious beliefs or moral convictions; or
 - (b) Such entity to:
- I Make its facilities available for the performance of any sterilization procedure or removal of a human embryo or fetus if the performance of such a procedure in such facilities is

prohibited by the entity on the basis of religious beliefs or moral convictions; or

2. Provide any personnel for the performance or assistance in the performance of any sterilization procedure or assistance if the performance or assistance in the performance of such procedure or the removal of a human embryo or fetus by such personnel would be contrary to the religious beliefs or moral convictions of such personnel.

History: 1973 c. 159; 1973 c. 336 s. 54.

140.45 Sanitarians; qualifications, duties, registration. (1) DEFINITIONS When used in this section:

- (a) "Sanitarian" is a person trained in the field of sanitary science and technology who is qualified to carry out educational and inspectional duties or to enforce the law in the field of sanitation.
- (c) "Municipality" is a county, city, village or town
- (2) REGISTRATION In order to safeguard life, health and property, to promote public welfare and to establish the status of those persons whose duties in environmental sanitation call for knowledge of the physical, the biological and social sciences, the department may establish minimum qualifications for the registration of sanitarians
- (3) Public bodies MAY EMPLOY SANITARIANS. Any pertinent agency of the state and any municipality may employ, on a full-time basis, one or more sanitarians, registered as provided in this section, who shall enforce laws and rules (as defined in s. 227.01 (9)) of the state and municipalities, relative to environmental sanitation.
- (5) CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION. The department, upon application on forms prescribed by it and payment of the prescribed fee, shall certify as a registered sanitarian any person who has satisfied it by satisfactory evidence that standards and qualifications of the department, as established by rule, have been met.
- (6) FEES: RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE; DELINQUENCY AND REINSTATEMENT. Fees fixed by rule of the department shall accompany the application under sub. (5) and an annual fee shall be paid by every registered sanitarian who desires to continue registration. All certificates of registration shall expire on December 31 in each year. The department may renew certificates upon application made after January 1 if it is satisfied that the applicant has good cause for not making application within the month of December and upon payment of the annual and additional fees prescribed by the department.

- (7) RECIPROCITY. The department may by rule set standards for sanitarians registered in other states to practice as registered sanitarians in this state.
- (8) REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE. The department may, after a hearing held in conformance with ch 227, revoke or suspend the certification of any sanitarian for practice of fraud or deceit in obtaining the certificate or any gross professional negligence, incompetence or misconduct.
- (9) PENALTY No person not registered under this section may claim to be a registered sanitarian nor append to his or her name the initials "R.S." Any person violating this subsection may be fined not more than \$100 or imprisoned not more than 6 months

History: 1975 c. 414 s. 28; 1977 c 29, 418

- **140.50** Radiation protection act. Sections 140.50 to 140.60 shall be known as the radiation protection act.
- 140.51 Public policy. Since ionizing radiations and their sources can be instrumental in the improvement of the health and welfare of the public if properly utilized, and may be destructive or detrimental to life or health if carelessly or excessively employed or may detrimentally affect the environment of the state if improperly utilized, it is hereby declared to be the public policy of this state to encourage the constructive uses of radiation and to prohibit and prevent exposure to ionizing radiation in amounts which are or may be detrimental to health. It is further the policy to advise, consult and cooperate with the department of industry, labor and human relations and other agencies of the state, the federal government, other states and interstate agencies and with affected groups, political subdivisions and industries; and, in general, to conform as nearly as possible to nationally accepted standards in the promulgation and enforcement of rules.

140.52 Definitions. As used in ss. 140.50 to 140.60:

- (3) "By-product material" means any radioactive material (except special nuclear material) yielded in or made radioactive by exposure to the radiation incident to the process of producing or utilizing special nuclear material
- (4) "Nuclear facility" means any reactor plant, any equipment or device used for the separation of the isotopes of uranium or plutonium, the processing or utilizing of radioactive material or handling, processing or packaging waste; any premise, structure, excavation or place of storage or disposition of waste or by-

- product material; or any equipment used for or in connection with the transportation of such material
- (5) "Radiation" or "ionizing radiation" as used in this chapter refers to electromagnetic radiations such as X-rays and gamma rays, or particulate radiations such as electrons or beta particles, protons, neutrons, alpha particles, usually of high energy, but in any case it includes all radiations capable of producing ions directly or indirectly in their passage through matter.
- (6) "Radiation installation" is any location or facility where radiation machines are used or where radioactive material is produced, transported, stored, disposed of or used for any purpose.
- (7) "Radiation machine" is any device that produces radiation when in use
- (8) "Radioactive material" includes any solid, liquid or gaseous substance which emits radiation spontaneously.
- (9) "Radiation source" means a radiation machine or radioactive material as defined herein
- (10) "Source material" means any material except special nuclear material, which contains by weight 0.05 per cent or more of uranium, thorium, or any combination thereof
- (11) "Special nuclear material" means plutonium, uranium 233, uranium enriched in the isotope 233 or in the isotope 235, and any other material which the nuclear regulatory commission determines to be special nuclear material; or any material artificially enriched by any of the foregoing Special nuclear material does not include source material.
- (12) "X-ray tube" means any electron tube which is designed for the conversion of electrical energy into X-ray energy

History: 1977 c 29.

- **140.53** Powers and duties. (1) The department and the department of industry, labor and human relations shall:
- (a) Formulate, adopt and enforce, amend and repeal rules, including registration of sources of radiation, as may be necessary to prohibit and prevent unnecessary radiation. Such rules may incorporate by reference the recommended standards of nationally recognized bodies in the field of radiation protection and other fields of atomic energy, under the procedure established by s. 227.025
- (b) Administer ss. 140.50 to 140.60 and the rules promulgated thereunder
- (c) Develop comprehensive policies and programs for the evaluation and determination of

hazards associated with the use of radiation, and for their amelioration

- (d) Advise, consult and co-operate with other agencies of the state, the federal government, other states and interstate agencies, and with affected groups, political subdivisions and industries.
- (e) Encourage, participate in or conduct studies, investigations, training, research and demonstrations relating to the control of radiation hazards, the measurement of radiation, the effects on health of exposure to radiation and related problems as it deems necessary or advisable for the discharge of its duties under ss 140.50 to 140.60.

(f) Collect and disseminate health education information relating to radiation protection as it deems proper

- (g) Review and approve plans and specifications for radiation sources submitted pursuant to rules promulgated under ss. 140.50 to 140.60; and inspect radiation sources, their shielding and immediate surroundings and records concerning their operation for the determination of any possible radiation hazard.
- (2) The department and the department of industry, labor and human relations may:
- (a) Enter, at all reasonable times, any private or public property for the purpose of investigating conditions relating to radiation control.
- (b) Accept and utilize grants or other funds or gifts from the federal government and from other sources, public or private, for carrying out its functions under ss. 140.50 to 140.60 such studies, investigations, training and demonstration may be conducted independently, by contract, or in co-operation with any person or any public or private agency, including any political subdivision of the state.
- 140.54 Registration. (1) APPLICATION. Every radiation installation in this state, not exempted by this section or the rules of the department shall be registered by the department by January 1, 1964, by the person in control of the installation, and no such radiation installation may be operated thereafter unless it has been duly registered by January 1 of each year and a notice of the registration is possessed by the person in control. Every radiation installation established in this state after January 1, 1964, shall be registered prior to its operation. The application for registration shall be made on forms provided by the department which shall be devised to obtain any information that is considered necessary for evaluation of hazards. Multiple radiation sources at a single radiation installation and under the control of one person shall be listed on a single registration form. Registration fees shall be levied in accordance

- with sub. (3) Registration alone shall not imply approval of manufacture, storage, use, handling, operation or disposal of the radiation installation or radioactive materials, but shall serve merely to inform the department of the location and character of radiation sources. The department shall furnish the department of industry, labor and human relations with a copy of each amended and new registration. Persons engaged in manufacturing, demonstration, sale, testing or repair of radiation sources shall not be required to list such sources on the registration form.
- (2) AMENDED REGISTRATION Whenever the person in control increases the number of sources, source strength, rated output or energy of radiation produced in any installation, he shall notify the department of such increase prior to operation on such revised basis, and such change shall be recorded in the registration. If any installation is discontinued, the person in control shall notify the department within 30 days of such discontinuance.
- (3) FEES. (a) An annual registration fee under pars (b) to (f) shall be levied on every person in control of a radiation installation registering under this section. An additional penalty fee of \$10, regardless of the number of X-ray tubes shall be required for each registration whenever the annual fee for renewal is not paid prior to expiration of the registration. No additional fee may be required for recording changes in the registration information.
- (b) For a medical X-ray facility serving physicians and clinics, osteopaths and clinics, and hospitals that possess one X-ray machine source, and radioactive materials in any quantity, the fee shall be \$40 and for each additional X-ray tube \$15. The maximum fee under this paragraph shall be \$150.
- (c) For a chiropractic X-ray facility possessing one X-ray machine source, the fee shall be \$40 and for each additional X-ray tube \$15. The maximum fee under this paragraph shall be \$100
- (d) For dental, podiatry and veterinary X-ray facilities the fee for one X-ray machine source shall be \$40 and for each additional X-ray tube \$15. The maximum fee under this paragraph shall be \$100
- (e) For an industrial X-ray facility the fee for one X-ray machine source and radioactive materials in any quantity shall be \$40 and for each additional X-ray tube \$15. The maximum fee under this paragraph shall be \$150.
- (f) For schools, research projects and all other X-ray facilities not otherwise specified under this subsection, the fee for one X-ray machine source and radioactive materials in any quantity shall be \$15 and for each additional X-

ray tube \$10. The maximum fee under this paragraph shall be \$50.

(4) EXEMPTIONS. The department shall exempt from registration any source licensed by the nuclear regulatory commission and may exempt from registration any source of radiation installation which the department finds to be without undue radiation hazard as determined by standards established by the national committee on radiation protection and measurements or any comparable nationally recognized agency established for the purpose of recommending standards for radiation protection, and after the initial registration may exempt from subsequent annual radiation requirements any source of radiation devoted primarily to industrial purposes

History: 1977 c. 29

140.56 Radiation protection council. (1) The radiation protection council shall provide the department with technical advice and assistance in the administration of ss. 140.50 to 140.60 and in the development of rules.

(2) The department shall, on the recommendation of the council promulgate a radiation protection code. Other departments and agencies of state government and local governmental units may adopt the identical code, but no other codes or ordinances relating to this subject shall be promulgated or enacted.

140.58 Enforcement. (1) Notification of VIOLATION AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT. Whenever the department or department of industry, labor and human relations finds, upon inspection and examination, that a source of radiation as constructed, operated or maintained results in a violation of ss. 140.50 to 140.60 or of any rules promulgated thereunder, it shall notify the person in control that is causing, allowing or permitting such violation as to the nature thereof and order that, prior to a specified time such person in control shall cease and abate causing, allowing or permitting such violation and take such action as may be necessary to have the source of radiation constructed, operated, or maintained in compliance with ss. 140.50 to 140.60 and rules promulgated thereunder.

(2) ORDERS. The department or department of industry, labor and human relations shall issue and enforce such orders or modifications of previously issued orders as may be required in connection with proceedings under ss. 140.50 to 140.60. Such orders shall be subject to review by the department upon petition of the persons affected. Whenever the department or department of industry, labor and human relations finds that a condition exists which constitutes an immediate threat to health due to violation of ss.

140.50 to 140.60 or any rule or order promulgated thereunder it may issue an order reciting the existence of such threat and the findings pertaining thereto. The department or department of industry, labor and human relations may summarily cause the abatement of such violation.

(3) RULES. The department shall enforce the rules pertaining to ionizing radiation in establishments principally engaged in furnishing medical, surgical, chiropractic and other health services to persons and animals. The department of industry, labor and human relations shall enforce the rules pertaining to ionizing radiation in industrial establishments. The department shall notify the department of industry, labor and human relations and deliver to it a copy of each new registration and at such time a decision shall be made as to which state agency shall enforce the rules pertaining to ionizing radiation. The department and the department of industry, labor and human relations are directed to consult with the radiation protection council in case of jurisdictional problems.

(4) ENFORCEMENT. All orders issued pursuant to ss. 140.50 to 140.60 shall be enforced by the attorney general. The circuit court of Dane county shall have jurisdiction to enforce such orders by injunctional and other appropriate relief.

140.59 Impounding materials. The department or department of industry, labor and human relations may impound or order the sequestration of sources of ionizing radiation in the possession of any person who is not equipped to observe or who fails to observe such safety standards to protect health as may have been established by rule.

140.595 Exceptions. (1) Nothing in ss. 140.50 to 140.60 shall be interpreted as limiting intentional exposure of persons to radiation for the purpose of analysis, diagnosis, therapy, and medical, chiropractic or dental research as authorized by law.

(2) Sections 140.50 to 140.60 shall not apply to on site activities of any nuclear reactor plant licensed or operated by the nuclear regulatory commission.

History: 1977 c. 29

140.60 Penalties. Any person who violates any provision of ss. 140.50 to 140.60 or any rule or order of the department, or department of industry, labor and human relations issued pursuant thereto shall forfeit and pay into the state treasury not less than \$10 nor more than \$500. Each day of continued violation after notice of the fact that a violation is being committed shall

be considered a separate offense. Should injury or death of an employe ensue, due to a failure of an employer to observe or enforce any rule issued under ss. 140.50 to 140.60, compensation and death benefits shall be increased by 15 per cent as provided in s. 102.57

140.65 Title. Sections 140.65 to 140.76 may be cited as the "Wisconsin Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act".

140.66 Definitions. As used in ss 140.65 to 140.76 unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1m) "Act" means ss. 140.65 to 140.76
- (2) "The federal act" means the mental retardation facilities and community mental health centers construction act of 1963 (P.L. 88-164), as now and hereafter amended.
- (3) "The secretary" means the secretary of health, education and welfare of the U.S., or his delegate to administer the federal act
- (4) "Facility for the mentally retarded" means a facility specially designed for the diagnosis, treatment, education, training or custodial care of the mentally retarded; including facilities for training specialists and sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded, but only if such workshops are part of facilities which provide or will provide comprehensive services for the mentally retarded
- (5) "Community mental health center" means a facility providing services for the prevention or diagnosis of mental illness, or care and treatment of mentally ill patients, or rehabilitation of such persons, which services are provided principally for persons residing in a particular community in or near which the facility is situated
- (6) "Nonprofit facility for the mentally retarded", and "nonprofit community mental health center" mean, respectively, a facility for the mentally retarded, and a community mental health center which is owned and operated by one or more nonprofit corporations or associations no part of the net earnings of which inures, or may lawfully inure, to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual
- 140.67 Construction of mental retardation facilities and community mental health centers. (2) The department shall constitute the sole agency of the state for the purpose of:
- (a) Making inventories of existing facilities, surveying the need for construction for facilities for the mentally retarded and community mental health centers, and developing programs of construction, and

- (b) Developing and administering a state plan for the construction of public and other nonprofit facilities for the mentally retarded, and a state plan for the construction of public and other nonprofit community mental health centers
- (3) The department, in carrying out the purposes of this act, is authorized to:
- (a) Require such reports, make such inspections and investigations and prescribe such rules as it deems necessary;
- (b) Provide such methods of administration, appoint personnel, and take such other action as necessary to comply with the requirements of the federal act and regulations thereunder;
- (c) Procure the temporary or intermittent services of experts or consultants or organizations thereof, by contract, when such services are to be performed on a part-time or fee-forservice basis and do not involve the performance of administrative duties;
- (d) The extent that it considers desirable to effectuate the purposes of this act, enter into agreements for the utilization of facilities and services of other departments, agencies and institutions, public or private;
- (e) Accept on behalf of the state and deposit with the state treasurer any grant, gift or contribution made to assist in meeting the cost of carrying out the purposes of this act, and to expend the same for such purposes;
- (f) Do all other things on behalf of the state necessary to obtain full benefits under the federal act as now and hereafter amended
- 140.69 Construction programs. The department is directed to develop construction programs for facilities for the mentally retarded and community mental health centers for the mentally ill, which shall be based respectively on state-wide inventories of existing facilities for the mentally retarded and the mentally ill and surveys of need, and which shall provide in accordance with regulations prescribed under the federal act, for facilities which will provide adequate services for the mentally retarded and adequate community mental health services for the people residing in this state and for furnishing needed services to persons unable to pay therefor.
- 140.70 State plans. The department shall prepare and submit to the secretary, state plans which shall include the programs for construction of facilities developed under this act and which shall provide for the establishment, administration and operation of such construction activities in accordance with the requirements of the federal act and regulations thereunder. The

department shall from time to time, but not less often than annually, review the state plans and submit to the secretary any modifications thereof which it considers necessary and may submit to the secretary such modifications of the state plan not inconsistent with the requirements of the federal act, as it deems advisable.

140.71 Standards for maintenance and operation. The department shall by regulation prescribe, and shall be authorized to enforce, standards for the maintenance and operation of facilities for the mentally retarded, and community mental health centers which receive federal aid for construction under the state plans.

140.72 Priority of projects. The state plans shall set forth the relative need and feasibility for the several projects included in the construction programs determined in accordance with the regulations prescribed pursuant to the federal act, and shall provide for the construction insofar as financial resources are available therefor in the order of such relative need and feasibility.

140.73 Applications. Applications for mental retardation facility or community mental health center construction projects for which federal funds are requested shall be submitted to the department by the state, a political subdivision thereof or by a public or other non-profit agency. Each application for a construction project shall conform to federal and state requirements.

140.74 Hearing; forwarding of applications. The department shall afford to every applicant for a construction project an opportunity for a fair hearing. If the department, after affording reasonable opportunity for development and submission of applications, finds that a project application complies with the requirements of this act and is otherwise in conformity with the state plan, it shall approve such application and shall recommend and forward it to the secretary.

140.75 inspection of projects. From time to time the department or its duly authorized agents shall inspect each construction project approved by the secretary, and if the inspection so warrants, the department shall certify to the secretary that work has been performed upon the project, or purchases have been made, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, and that payment of an instalment of federal funds is due to the applicant

140.76 Mental retardation facilities and community mental health centers construction funds. The department may receive federal funds in behalf of, and transmit them to, such applicants. In the general fund there is hereby established, separate and apart from all public moneys of this state, a mental retardation facilities construction fund and a community mental health centers construction fund. Money received from the federal government for a construction project under this act approved by the secretary shall be deposited to the credit of the appropriate fund and shall be used solely for payments to applicants for work performed, or purchases made, in carrying out approved project.

140.77 Pesticide review board. (1) The pesticide review board created by s. 15.195 (1) shall collect, analyze and interpret information, and make recommendations to and coordinate the regulatory and informational responsibilities to the state agencies, on matters relating to the use of pesticides, particularly recommendations for limiting pesticide use to those materials and amounts of pesticides found necessary and effective in the control of pests and which are not unduly hazardous to persons, animals or plants. Pesticide rules authorized by ss. 29.29 (4) and 94.69, except pesticide rules issued under s. 94.705 (2), are not effective until approved by the review board.

(2) The pesticide review board shall appoint a council not to exceed 6 members of technical or professional experts composed of one representative each from the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, department of health and social services, department of natural resources, college of agricultural and life sciences of the university of Wisconsin, water resources center of the university of Wisconsin, school of natural resources of the university of Wisconsin, and in addition 3 public members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate for staggered 3-year terms who shall be technical or professional experts in the use of pesticides, one of whom shall be a representative of the pesticide industry, one of whom shall be a representative of the agricultural industry and one of whom shall be a person of broad knowledge and experience in the conservation and wise use of natural resources. The council shall generally assist the review board and shall assist particularly in obtaining scientific data and coordinating pesticide regulatory, enforcement, research and educational functions of the state.

(3) The pesticide review board shall report to the governor and the legislature any pesticide

matters it finds are of vital concern for the protection of the health and well-being of people or for the protection of fish, wildlife, plants, soil, air and water from pesticide pollution. Such report may include its recommendations for legislative or other governmental action.

History: 1975 c 94 s 91 (10); 1977 c 29 s 1650m (4); 1977 c 106

Cross Reference: See 134 67 for prohibition of use of DDT and exceptions to the prohibition

140.81 Drug dependence program. (1) In this section:

- (a) "Drug dependence" means a condition arising from the periodic or continuous use of a drug which may result in psychic or physical dependence which would affect or potentially affect the public health, safety or welfare
- (b) "Drug abuse" means the use of a drug in such a manner as to endanger the public health, safety or welfare
- (c) "Drug" means a controlled substance, as defined in s. 161.01 (4).
- (2) A drug dependence and drug abuse program is established in the department. The secretary may develop and carry out programs concerned with education about and prevention of drug dependence and drug abuse, and programs concerned with treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent persons and persons who abuse drugs. The secretary shall appoint a drug dependence program coordinator to handle liaison with other departments and agencies, including the council on alcohol and other drug abuse. These programs may include, but shall not be limited to:
- (a) Education regarding use of drugs and the prevention of drug dependence and drug abuse
- (b) Diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients who are drug dependent persons or persons who abuse drugs
- (c) Development of standards and provision of consultation for local drug dependence and drug abuse programs
- (d) Evaluation of programs conducted pursuant to the authority of this subsection as to their effectiveness and relationship to the public health, safety and welfare and the development of improved techniques for the prevention and treatment of drug dependence and drug abuse.
- (e) Promotion and establishment of cooperative relationship with public and private agencies which have a responsibility for the prevention and treatment of drug dependence and drug abuse
- (3) The secretary may appoint a council to meet on the call of the secretary and to advise him on broad policies and goals for the drug dependence and drug abuse program.

(4) The department may accept, receive, administer and expend any money, material or other gifts or grants of any description for purposes related to those set forth in this section. Moneys and grants received under this section shall be deposited with the state treasurer and shall be credited to the department of health and social services and expended by the department or the council on alcohol and other drug abuse for the purposes specified.

History: 1971 c 219; 1975 c 370

140.82 Health planning. (1) The department shall:

- (a) Initiate, conduct and periodically evaluate a process for planning to effectively use the resources of the state and meet the health needs of its citizens
- (b) Annually prepare the state comprehensive health plan. The plan shall identify state health goals and priorities, determine health fund allocation priorities, provide for the coordination of federal hospital construction, mental health, alcohol, other drug abuse and developmental disability plans. In addition to coordinating the preparation of health-related federal plans, the department shall coordinate the preparation of public and private state health and health-related plans. This shall include the state facilities survey and development of the state health facilities plan.
- (c) Receive and administer federal funds for state health planning and development.
- (d) Receive and administer state funds for state health planning and development
- (e) Designate and provide for the development and organization of substate health planning and development agencies as established under P.L. 93-641
- (f) Ensure the development of appropriate substate health plans by providing technical assistance, preparing plan guidelines and other directives as necessary
- (g) Provide information and technical assistance to the office of the governor and the legislature and public and private organizations as necessary to implement the state's health plan
- (h) Contract with substate health planning and development agencies and other organizations to do analyses and studies required to formulate state health policy.
- (i) Serve as the single state agency for federally assisted health facility modernization and construction.
- (j) Coordinate the activities within state government for the collection, retrieval, analysis, reporting and publication of statistical and other information related to health and health care.

- (2) The administrator shall appoint under the classified service the staff necessary to perform the duties of the division.
- (3) Every department, independent agency and statutory council, and their officers and employes, shall cooperate with the department in matters relating to these functions.
- (4) Each individual and institutional provider of health services licensed or approved by the state and doing business in the state shall make statistical and other reports of information related to health and health care to the department.

History: 1973 c 90; 1975 c 39; 1977 c 29 ss 1154, 1155, 1156, 1649; 1977 c 203

140.83 Emergency service classification.

- (1) DEFINITION In this section "area-wide comprehensive health planning agency" means a governmental agency or a private nonprofit corporation which meets the requirements of the federal partnership for health act, P.L. 89-749, as amended, and which has been designated by the state comprehensive health planning agency under that act as an area-wide comprehensive health planning agency
- (2) REGIONAL PLANS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES. Each area-wide comprehensive health planning agency shall develop a plan for the provision of emergency medical services within the area.
- (3) STATE RESPONSIBILITY. The department shall:
- (a) Provide technical assistance to the areawide comprehensive health planning agencies in the development of emergency medical service plans.
- (b) Coordinate the activities of agencies and organizations providing training for the delivery of emergency medical services.
- (c) Assist the development of training for emergency medical technicians--advanced (paramedics)
- (d) Assess the emergency medical resources and services of the state and encourage the allocation of resources to areas of identified need
- (e) Assist hospitals in planning for appropriate and efficient handling of the critically ill and injured.

History: 1973 c. 321; 1975 c. 413 s. 4; 1977 c. 29 ss. 606g, 606r, 1156m

140.85 Licensing and approval fees for inpatient health care facilities. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section, "inpatient health care facility" means any hospital, nursing home, community-based residential facility, county home, county mental hospital, tuberculosis sanatoria or other place, without restriction because

of enumeration, licensed or approved by the department under ss. 49.14, 49.16, 49.171, 50.02, 50.03, 50.35, 51.08, 51.09, 58.06, 149.01 and 149.02.

(2) FEES. The annual fee for an inpatient health care facility shall be based on the number of beds or residents for which the facility is licensed as follows:

Number of beds or residents	Annual license fee
3-25	\$125
26-50	\$250
51-100	\$375
101-150	\$500
151-200	\$625
201-250	\$750
251-300	\$875
301 & Over	\$1,000

- (a) Such fees shall be paid to the department by the inpatient health care facility on or before October 1 for the ensuing year. A new inpatient health care facility shall pay the fees under this subsection no later than 30 days before the opening of the facility.
- (b) Any health care facility which fails to submit the annual fee prior to October 1, or 30 days prior to the opening of a new inpatient health care facility subject to this section shall pay an additional fee of \$10 per day for every day after the deadline
- (3) EXEMPTIONS. The central state hospital and health care facilities under ss. 45.365, 48.62, 51.05, 51.06 and 149.06, and ch. 142 are exempt from this section.

History: 1973 c. 90, 243, 333; 1975 c. 413 s. 18; 1975 c. 430 ss. 73, 80; 1977 c. 26, 418

NOTE: Chapter 418, laws of 1977, amends sub. (3), effective January 1, 1981 to read:

- "(3) EXEMPTIONS. (a) Health care facilities under ss. 45.365, 48.62, 51.05, 51.06 and 149.06, and ch. 142 are exempt from this section.
- (b) Community-based residential facilities serving fewer than 20 residents are exempt from this section."

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140.90 Preparation and distribution of formulary of drug product equivalents. (1) In this section:

- (a) "Brand name" means the name, other than the generic name, that the labeler of a drug product places on its container at the time of packaging
- (b) "Drug product" means a specific drug in a specific dosage form from a known source of manufacture, whether by brand name or generic name.
- (c) "Drug product equivalent" means a drug product containing active ingredients chemically identical to another drug product, which

when administered by the same route of administration and in the same amount, has comparable safety and therapeutic effects

- (d) "Formulary" means a list of drug products prepared and published by the department in accordance with this section
- (e) "Generic name" means the official or established name given a drug product by the U.S. department of health, education and welfare or the U.S. adopted names council.
- (f) "Hospital formulary system" means a method used by the medical staff of a hospital, working through a pharmacy and therapeutics committee, to evaluate and select from among numerous available medicinal agents those medicinal agents considered most useful therapeutically and to list dosage forms in which they may be most effectively administered
- (2) The department, with the advice of the drug quality council, shall prepare a formulary which lists commonly prescribed drug products by brand name together with their drug product equivalents ranked in the order of their average
- wholesale cost. In developing the formulary, the department may include any generic drug approved by the federal government under Titles 18 and 19 of the social security act or included in a formulary adopted by another governmental body or agency, except that whenever equivalency in therapeutic effect or bioavailability as related to toxic concentration and safety is critical for a class of drugs, a drug product equivalent in such a class shall be listed in the formulary only if there is evidence of its equivalency satisfactory to the department.
- (3) The department shall distribute the formulary to all pharmacists and persons authorized to prescribe drugs and to other persons on request. The department shall review the formulary and make necessary revisions at least twice in each calendar year.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the establishment and operation of hospital formulary systems.

History: 1975 c. 168.