

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2696**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Beth Gaines**

February 19, 2016

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An act to amend Section 131005 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2696, as introduced, Beth Gaines. State Public Health Officer.

Existing law establishes the position of the State Public Health Officer, who serves as the director of the State Department of Public Health. The officer is required to be a licensed physician and surgeon, pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, and to have demonstrated medical, public health, and management experience.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to this provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 131005 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 131005. (a) There is in state government an executive officer
- 4 known as the State Public Health Officer, who shall be appointed
- 5 by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and hold
- 6 office at the pleasure of the Governor. The State Public Health
- 7 Officer shall receive the annual salary provided by Article 1

1 (commencing with Section 11550) of Chapter 6 of Part 1 of  
2 Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

3 (b) The State Public Health Officer shall serve as the director  
4 of, and have control over, the State Department of Public Health.

5 (c) Any statutory reference to “director,” “the Director of Health  
6 Services,” “the Director of Public Health,” or the “Director of the  
7 State Department of Public Health,” regarding a function  
8 transferred to the State Department of Public Health pursuant to  
9 Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 131050), is deemed to,  
10 instead, refer to the State Public Health Officer.

11 (d) Any statutory reference to “department” or “state  
12 department” regarding a function transferred to the State  
13 Department of Public Health pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing  
14 with Section 131050), shall refer to the State Department of Public  
15 Health.

16 (e) The director shall be a ~~licensed~~ physician and surgeon *who*  
17 *is licensed* pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000)  
18 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, *and* who has  
19 demonstrated medical, public health, and management experience.