

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

### **Committee Substitute**

**for**

### **Senate Bill 904**

BY SENATOR DEEDS

[Reported March 27, 2025, from the Committee on  
Health and Human Resources]



- 1 A BILL to amend and reenact §16-1-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
2 to the clarification of requirements for Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 1. STATE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM.**

**§16-1-5. State health officer; Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health; appointment; qualifications; term.**

- 1 The Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health may be designated the State Health  
2 Officer. The commissioner and the State Health Officer shall be appointed by the secretary. ~~The~~  
3 ~~commissioner shall be a person holding a doctorate degree in public health administration unless~~  
4 ~~designated the state health officer.~~ The State Health Officer shall be licensed under the laws of  
5 this state to practice medicine. The commissioner and the State Health Officer serve at the will  
6 and pleasure of the secretary and shall not be actively engaged or employed in any other  
7 business, vocation, or employment, serving full-time in the duties of the office as prescribed by  
8 this article.