

STATE HOSPITAL, CONSTRUCTION
Act of Jul. 1, 1937, P.L. 2685, No. 538
AN ACT

CL. 35

Providing for the erection, construction, and equipment of buildings for a new State sanatorium, or new buildings at existing sanatoria; designating the manner of acquiring or setting aside of land for the erection and construction of such buildings by The General State Authority; authorizing the Commonwealth to lease such new sanatorium or building or buildings and the grounds connected therewith from The General State Authority upon their completion, and the Department of Health to manage and operate the same; and conferring powers and imposing duties upon certain State departments.

WHEREAS, It is the desire of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that The General State Authority construct a new sanatorium or erect additional buildings to existing sanatoria and lease the same to the Commonwealth; therefore,

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the Department of Health, with the approval of the Governor, may select for acquisition, either by the Department of Property and Supplies in the name of the Commonwealth or by The General State Authority with funds of the authority, a tract of land well supplied or capable of being supplied with water and capable of being sewered and drained, for the erection and construction thereon by The General State Authority of an additional sanatorium for the treatment of persons afflicted with tuberculosis. The title to the lands so acquired shall be approved by the Attorney General. If it shall be found that the Commonwealth owns State forest lands or other lands suitable in whole or in part for such use, such lands may be designated by the Department of Health, with the approval of the Governor and the department, board, or commission of the Commonwealth having possession and control of the same, and any additional lands necessary may be selected and acquired as aforesaid.

Section 2. The Department of Property and Supplies shall have authority to convey any land so acquired or selected, or any lands now owned in connection with any State sanatorium, to The General State Authority for the purpose of having such authority erect and construct thereon and equip buildings for a new sanatorium or a new building or buildings to any existing sanatorium. The plans and specifications of any such sanatorium building or buildings, whether erected on land acquired directly by The General State Authority or by conveyance to it from the Commonwealth, shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Health, and shall provide for suitable buildings and an adequate water supply system, sewage treatment works, heat and electric power plant or plants, service lines, and other necessary equipment, structures, and improvements. The buildings shall be of modern design, plain and substantial, and capable of extension as the needs of the sanatorium may require.

Section 3. The Department of Property and Supplies, with the approval of the Governor, is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Commonwealth, to enter into a lease for a term of not more than thirty (30) years with The General State Authority, to acquire the use of the new sanatorium building or buildings so erected, constructed, and equipped, and any lands or farms connected therewith for the purpose of operation and management. In such case the management and operation of the sanatorium building or buildings and the care, treatment and maintenance of patients therein shall be the function of the Department of Health. Subject to and in the manner provided in the Administrative Code of one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine, and its amendments, the Department of Health shall have power to employ and fix the compensation of a director, physicians, mechanics, nurses, clerks, stenographers, and other employes as may be deemed necessary for the proper maintenance and management of the sanatorium and patients therein and the land connected therewith. The compensation of all persons so appointed and all other expenses in connection with such care and maintenance of patients therein shall be paid from the appropriation made to the Department of Health for such purposes.

Section 4. In the management and operation of the new sanatorium building or buildings, the Department of Health shall have all the powers conferred and perform all the duties imposed by the laws of this Commonwealth on it in respect to the existing sanatoria for tubercular patients.

Section 5. This act shall become effective immediately upon its final enactment.