

1 Sponsored by: Councilmember Pam Roach
2 Requested by: County Council

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8 **ORDINANCE NO. 2020-136**

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13 **An Ordinance of the Pierce County Council Establishing a County Board of**
14 **Health and Department of Public Health; Terminating the**
15 **Agreement Creating a Combined County-City Health**
16 **Department Known as the Tacoma-Pierce County Health**
17 **Department Upon a Date Certain; Amending Chapter 2.06 of**
18 **the Pierce County Code, "Departments and Organizations";**
19 **Directing the Clerk to Take Certain Actions; Requesting that**
20 **the Executive Take Preliminary or Transitional Steps**
21 **Necessary to Implement this Ordinance Including**
22 **Forwarding Draft Legislation to Create an Executive**
23 **Department to Manage Administrative Functions of the**
24 **Health Board; Amending Pierce County Code References to**
25 **the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Consistent**
26 **with this Ordinance; and Establishing Effective Dates.**

27
28 **Whereas**, Pierce County and the City of Tacoma operate a combined County-
29 City Health Department, known as the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department,
30 pursuant to Chapters 70.05, 70.08 and 70.12 of the Revised Code of Washington
31 (RCW); and

32
33 **Whereas**, Resolution No. R2005-137 was approved by the Pierce County
34 Council on April 18, 2006, authorizing a new interlocal agreement (hereinafter
35 "AGREEMENT") continuing and amending the combined County-City Health
36 Department known as the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, and said
37 interlocal agreement was executed on May 23, 2006, and remains in effect to this day;
38 and

39
40 **Whereas**, RCW 70.12.050 provides that "[a]ll expenditures in connection with
41 salaries, wages and operations incurred in carrying on the health department of the
42 county, combined city-county health department, or health district shall be paid out of
43 [the fund authorized at RCW 70.12.030]"; and



1 **Whereas**, RCW 70.08.100 provides that an "[a]greement to operate a combined
2 city and county health department made under this chapter . . . may be terminated by
3 either party at the end of any calendar year upon notice in writing given at least six
4 months prior thereto"; and

5
6 **Whereas**, Section I.(D) of the AGREEMENT provides that "[e]ither the County or
7 the City may give the other written notice of intent to terminate . . . the termination shall
8 take effect at the close of the Health Department's fiscal year following the fiscal year in
9 which notice was given; and

10
11 **Whereas**, the termination of the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department shall
12 not relieve either party of any obligations to which it has been previously committed (see
13 *RCW 70.08.100*); and

14
15 **Whereas**, RCW 70.05.035 provides that in counties with a Home Rule Charter,
16 the county legislative authority shall establish a local board of health and may prescribe
17 the membership and selection process for the board; **Now Therefore**,

18
19 **BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of Pierce County:**

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21 Section 1. The Agreement providing for the Creation and Operation of a
22 Combined County-City Health Department (Exhibit A to Resolution No. R2006-30) is
23 hereby terminated effective December 31, 2021.

24
25 Section 2. Chapter 2.06 of the Pierce County Code, "Departments and
26 Organizations," is hereby amended as shown in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and
27 incorporated herein by reference.

28
29 Section 3. The Council finds that it has been more than two years since the date
30 of the agreement identified in Section 1.

31
32 Section 4. The Clerk of the Council shall forward a copy of this Ordinance to the
33 City Clerk of Tacoma.

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35 Section 5. The Executive is requested to take any preliminary or transitional
36 steps necessary to implement this Ordinance and is further requested to forward draft
37 legislation creating an Executive Department to administer non-legislative functions of
38 the Health Board.



1 Section 6. Section 2 of this Ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2022.

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4 **PASSED** this _____ day of _____, 2020.

5
6 ATTEST:

PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL
Pierce County, Washington

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10 _____
11 **Denise D. Johnson**
12 Clerk of the Council

Douglas G. Richardson
Council Chair

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14
15 _____
16 **Bruce F. Dammeier**
17 Pierce County Executive
18 Approved _____ Vetoed _____, this
19 _____ day of _____,
20 2020.

21
22 Date of Publication of
23 Notice of Public Hearing: _____

24
25 Effective Date of Ordinance: _____



Only those portions of Chapter 2.06 that are proposed to be amended are shown.
Remainder of text, tables, maps and/or figures is unchanged.

Chapter 2.06

DEPARTMENTS AND ORGANIZATION

Sections:

- 2.06.010 Executive Departments – Appointive Directors.**
- 2.06.020 Executive Department – Elective Directors.**
- 2.06.030 Other Departments, and Offices, and the Health Board.**

2.06.010 Executive Departments – Appointive Directors.

- A. The following executive branch appointive director departments are established:
 1. Parks and Recreation Services;
 2. Human Services;
 3. Finance;
 4. Human Resources;
 5. Medical Examiner;
 6. Clerk of the Superior Court;
 7. Assigned Counsel;
 8. Planning and Public Works;
 9. Emergency Management;
 10. Facilities Management;
 11. Economic Development;
 12. Health. [Reserved]

2.06.030 Other Departments, and Offices, and the Health Board.

- A. The following departments and offices are established:
 1. ~~Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department;~~
 2. ~~Prosecutor;~~
 23. ~~Communications;~~
 3. Health Board.

NOTE: The following departmental descriptions are intended to designate the powers and responsibilities of those departments and are not intended to limit the Pierce County Executive or department directors with regard to the departments' internal organizational structure.

- B. **Health Board.** The Pierce County Council shall constitute the official county Health Board in accordance with RCW 70.05.035. Items for Health Board consideration shall be referred to the County Council, unless required by law. The County Council, in its capacity as Health Board, shall have the powers specified at RCW 70.05.060 and other powers and duties that may be established by state or county law.



1 ~~B. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. The Tacoma-Pierce~~
2 ~~County Health Department is a joint city-county department defined by RCW~~
3 ~~Chapter 70.080 and by a written agreement between Pierce County and the City of~~
4 ~~Tacoma.~~

5 ~~1. The Health Department has as its basic functions:~~

6 ~~a. Epidemiologic surveillance, looking at the determinants and distribution of~~
7 ~~disease and disability in the human population.~~

8 ~~b. Technical advisor on health matters to policy makers and the public.~~

9 ~~c. Provider or guarantor of last resort.~~

10 ~~2. The department is administered by the Director of Health and governed by a five-~~
11 ~~person Board: Mayor of Tacoma, Pierce County Executive, Pierce County~~
12 ~~Councilmember, Tacoma Councilmember, Community Member At Large,~~
13 ~~Nonvoting Member from Pierce County Cities and Towns Association.~~

14 ~~3. The department includes the following functions and/or divisions:~~

15 ~~a. Administrative Services which includes fiscal management of the department,~~
16 ~~personnel and volunteer services and support services including Vital Statistics,~~
17 ~~Laboratory and Central Supply Services.~~

18 ~~b. Environmental Health which includes vector control services (rodents, etc.),~~
19 ~~environmental complaints (garbage, animal keeping practices, etc.), food service~~
20 ~~protection, water resource protection services (groundwater, marine water~~
21 ~~protection, etc.), public water supply services, on-site sewage disposal, solid and~~
22 ~~hazardous waste disposal, recreational sanitation (swimming pools, bathing~~
23 ~~beaches, camps, etc.), institutional sanitation (schools), and physical and~~
24 ~~chemical hazards.~~

25 ~~c. Family and Community Health Services provides public health services to~~
26 ~~individuals of all age groups as well as to community groups. Services are~~
27 ~~organized in three Sections. The Parent Child Health services include family~~
28 ~~planning, prenatal, and well child. This Section also serves physically and~~
29 ~~emotionally disturbed children. The Community Health Section focuses~~
30 ~~primarily on adults in well-adult clinics, and skilled home health care. In~~
31 ~~addition, the four primary care clinics, Eastside, Family, Sumner, and Lakewood,~~
32 ~~provide care. The Disease Control Section provides tuberculosis, sexually~~
33 ~~transmitted disease, general communicable diseases and substance abuse~~
34 ~~services.~~

35 ~~d. Emergency Medical Services Division is charged with the coordination of~~
36 ~~prehospital care activities in Pierce County. In this capacity it is responsible for~~
37 ~~the certification of prehospital personnel, dissemination of public information~~
38 ~~and education, providing and/or coordinating CPR training, coordinating the~~
39 ~~designation process and development of the base station and trauma center~~
40 ~~system and establishment of a county-wide emergency communications system.~~
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